MVA joins Japanese group in handing out relief aid. PAGE 5
CUC: 1,141 poles damaged on Saipan; 797 on Tinian. PAGE 6

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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75¢

Thousands make their voices heard

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Many homes remain in shambles, some roads still have leaning power poles, debris still litters many villages, and concerns were raised whether the election will push through after Super Typhoon Yutu, yet that did not stop thousands from making their voices heard at yesterday's generally peaceful election in the CNMI.

Unlike previous gubernatorial elections, though, this year's voters, who are still shell-shocked from Yutu's destruction, will not be returning for a runoff election.

Commonwealth Election Com-

See THOUSANDS on Page 4

Lines form as residents prepare to cast their votes in the 2018 elections yesterday at the Garapan Roundhouse.
ERWIN ENCINARES

Spear-fisherman drowns

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
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REPORTER

A man drowned near the 13 Fishermen Memorial Monument late Monday night.

Police from the Department of Public Safety found the 49-year-old man lifeless near the 13 Fishermen Monument in Garapan

The 49-year-old victim, who was reportedly from Susupe, was said to be spear fishing before the drowning incident and had a cramp. The man was later found lying still by the shore.

According to a DPS release, Dispatch received a call at approximately 8:20pm last Monday, re-

See DROWNS on Page 4

GIVING HOPE ONE TIN AT A TIME

Making art from tragedy

By BEA CABRERA
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CORRESPONDENT

Enduring images of twisted tin roofs, with some wrapped around naked tree trunks and many scattered all over Saipan and Tinian, give a wordless measure of how ferocious Super

See ART on Page 4

Meena Benavente.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Meena Benavente's tin art is displayed across the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe. She uses salvaged tin sheets to create art and spread words of unity and hope to the community.
BEA CABRERA

Lawmakers' salaries' kept flat

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

The House of Representatives approved Sunday a bill that establishes the salaries of members of the Legislature at $39,300—the same level where it is now.

In the resumption of its emergency session last Sunday, all 11 House members present voted to pass House Bill 20-194.

The measure, introduced by acting floor leader Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero (R-Saipan), now heads to the Senate for action.

Speaker Rafael S. Demapan (R-Saipan) called for the emergency session last Sunday after the Advi-

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At least 42 people are confirmed dead in the wildfire in Northern California.
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Amnesty International has withdrawn its highest honor from Aung San Suu Kyi.
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LIFE & STYLE
It's no stretch to say that Stan Lee helped redraw the world of American fiction.
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SCAN ME WITH A COMPATIBLE QR READER TO KEEP UPDATED ON ALL THE LATEST NEWS.

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Local

REPORTER'S NOTEBOOK

At the tent of gubernatorial candidate Juan N. Babauta and his running mate, Dr. Rita A. Sablan, near a polling place in Garapan Central Park, supporters kept on playing the Babauta-Sablan's and independent candidates' campaign song, Munga Mana Lastima i Bota Miyu. Alfred Saures is the singer of the campaign jingle, which means "Don't Waste Your Vote." The song's lively cha-cha tune prompted Francisco C. Sablan, husband of Dr. Sablan, to dance with an elderly woman supporter on the side of the street by the Gold's Gym.

■■■

At the early voting, Commonwealth Election Commission officials and officers allowed the media to take photos and videos of voters presenting their identification cards and checking an answer in a box from a question pertaining to early voting. Media, however, were not allowed to take photos and videos when the voters would cast their votes.

It was the same policy at the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library yesterday morning. But yesterday afternoon, the policy was changed. Media were not allowed to take videos and photos at all.

■■■

Despite the magnitude and severity of the devastation of Super Typhoon Yutu three weeks ago, Saipan voters were not hindered.

According to Herman P. Sablan, Precinct 1A and 1B-1 poll supervisor, this year's election was nothing short of interesting.

"This year's election is very interesting and was a bit more complicated because we had the calamity that just took place and people are still struggling to recover yet they still came out to vote," he said.

■■■

It was a fiesta-like atmosphere across Chacha Oceanview Middle School, the polling pace for Precinct 5-1 and 5-2 in Kagman, with supporters of the local Republican Party cheering passersby and those who are about to vote.

■■■

Supporters of the NMI Republican Party—wearing red- or orange-colored shirts—were at every GOP tent near every polling place. You can easily see the bright orange-colored shirts even a few hundred feet away.

■■■

Former governor Juan N. Babauta bumped into Carlos S. Camacho, the CNMI's first chief executive, after voting at Precinct 3B-1 and 3B-2 at the Garapan Central Park.

■■■

The Commonwealth Election Commission's organization of this year's voting system impressed some voters, who said the voting experience took about 15 minutes in all.

■■■

Candidates and their camps concluded their final voting run with an island touch—blaring music with a festive melody. As traffic started to build up at the turn going into the Sugar King Park, the voters had to drive through a drove of tents with faces of candidates on tarps and billboards already discolored by the intense sun.

■■■

The Garapan Roundhouse was nearly empty in the afternoon, with the 10 poll workers, some Department of Public Safety officers, an Office of the Attorney General representative, and about 2-3 voters in their booths. On the tally sheets of poll workers, they noted that 1,521 voters dropped by to cast their votes from 8am to 2pm. ***(Ferdie de la Torre, Jon Perez, Kimberly Bautista, Erwin Encinares)***

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First-time voters excited to vote

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Jimenez

Many first-time voters looked forward to voting in this year's general election.

Bishop Ryan P. Jimenez himself of the Diocese of Chalan Kanoa looked forward to exercising his right to vote for the first time.

"I'm actually excited," he said shortly after voting at the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library in Susupe yesterday afternoon.

Jimenez said that one of the things that he was looking forward to when he became a U.S. citizen last year was to vote in the CNMI. He said it's a long process for him.

He prays that whoever wins will lead the community well. "I hope that after this, we can move forward," he said. "It is really very important that we work together as one community."

Jimenez noted seeing an artwork with a message, "One Marianas. One Heart."

"What a wonderful message. It's all really about serving our people," he added.

A first-time voter who only identified himself as John, said his father, a long-time Filipino worker on Saipan, accompanied him to the polling place. John, 19, said his father was actually more excited than he was.

Many first-time young voters said they obtained the advice of their parents. That was the case with John. This was the same story with 19-year-old Richard, also a first-time voter.

Wilfredo Dela Cruz, 63, said it was his first time to vote since obtaining his citizenship this year.

Dela Cruz, who was accompanied to the polling place by his 27-year-old son, James, a teacher, said it is his civic duty to vote.

Other voters feel relieved that there is no runoff election as there are only two gubernatorial candidates.

Maricar Cepeda, a teacher, said she is thankful that she does not need to vote again as there is no runoff election. Cepeda said a runoff election would be too much of a hassle, considering the massive destruction of Super Typhoon Yutu.

James De la Cruz said if there is a runoff it would be a waste of time and gas while the island is still recovering from Yutu's destructions.

Gubernatorial candidate Juan N. Babauta said it's good that there is no runoff election because that will eliminate the hassle of preparing another election.

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Torres: People's voices heard in elections

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres said that every election is one of the many chances where the voice of people is heard, where the chance of selecting their leaders are solely in their hands.

"It is Election Day, always nerve-wracking…In this election, the people decide who would lead them in the next four years and two years for members of Congress," Torres said during a break yesterday while visiting supporters across the Chacha Oceanview Middle School gate. "When people exercise their right to vote, no one can control that but every individual who walks in to vote."

Torres is seeking a full four-year term after serving as the running mate of former governor Eloy S. Inos in the 2014 elections against three other opponents. He has Senate President Arnold I. Palacios (R-Saipan) as his running mate.

"I was humbled to be given the chance to serve the last four years, with the late governor Inos. And hopefully, we could continue it," added Torres.

He said a lot of accusations had been thrown during the campaign, with his family also being implicated. "We have been going around the same circle. I've been accused of corruption and accused of going to be indicted for wrongdoing."

"They accused my brothers all kinds. Even my family and my wife. It is another form of intimidation and comment. Why don't they show any proof? Stop making accusations and start proving your claims. Show proof and stop talking."

Torres voted last Nov. 8, Thursday, as part of the early voting.

Palacios voted last Saturday with some members of his family while their opponents, former governor Juan N. Babauta and Dr. Rita A. Sablan cast their votes yesterday. ***(Jon Perez)***

SALARIES

From Page 1

sory Commission on the Compensation of Commonwealth Executive, Legislative and Judicial Officers submitted its report last Saturday.

The commission's task was primarily to recommend the salaries of future members of the CNMI Legislature.

"In order to address this report in a manner that included all members of the CNMI Legislature, we needed to call an emergency session to vote on H.B. 20-194 before members voted on the salaries of the 21st Legislature after they had already been elected in [yesterday's] election to the 21st Legislature. We avoid any conflicts of interest relative to the salary of the 21st Legislature by voting on it prior to the election results," said Demapan.

"I feel comfortable with calling an emergency session because the nature of the bill is essentially the future salaries of the 21st CNMI Legislature and every future legislature for that matter. We had to decide whether the [annual] salary set by the court of $8,000 was appropriate or whether the figure that was recommended by the commission ($39,300.00) was more appropriate."

He added that they discussed the commission's report during the emergency session. "This emergency session was called to discuss the report and its methodology, and vote on H.B. 20-194 to set the salaries for the 21st Legislature at the current level of $39,300. In the end, we decided not to raise salaries whatsoever. We kept that at the same level that they have been since they were set in 1991."

Present at the session were House Speaker Rafael S. Demapan (R-Saipan), Reps. Francisco C. Aguon (R-Saipan), B.J. Attao (Ind-Saipan), Ivan A. Blanco (R-Saipan), Francisco S. Dela Cruz (R-Saipan), Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan), Alice S. Igitol (R-Saipan), Jose I. Itibus (R-Saipan), Gregorio M. Sablan Jr. (R-Saipan), and Edmund S. Villagomez (Ind-Saipan).

Vice speaker Janet U. Maratita (R-Saipan), floor leader Rep. Glenn L. Maratita (R-Rota), Reps. Edwin P. Aldan (R-Tinian), Donald C. Barcinas (R-Saipan), Angel A. Demapan (R-Saipan), Joseph Leepan T. Guerrero (R-Saipan), Edwin K. Propst (Ind-Saipan), John Paul P. Sablan (R-Saipan), and Vinnie F. Sablan (Ind-Saipan) were absent.

H.B. 20-194 aims to keep the salaries of lawmakers at $39,300, based on the recommendation of the commission.

H.B. 20-194 finds that the annual salary of $8,000 for legislators would take effect in the 21st Legislature unless the current members increase the compensation based on the recommendation of the commission.

The $8,000 annual salary was the original compensation received by the inaugural Legislature before P.L. 4-32 and P.L. 7-31 increased it to $30,000 and $39,300, respectively. The controversial P.L. 19-83 could have increased it to $70,000 but the CNMI Supreme Court, in *Manibusan v. Larson*, ruled that the salary hike was unconstitutional, including in the previous (P.L.s 4-32 and 7-31).

The CNMI Superior Court, in September 2018, decided the Supreme Court's ruling won't be retroactive, with the current members of the 20th Legislature receiving the same amount of $39,300 until their term ends.

The commission was formed based on Section 3 of Public Law 20-71 and is in accordance with Article II Section X of the CNMI Constitution. They are tasked to review the salary increases for the three branches of the government, based on an accepted composite price index.

THOUSANDS

From Page 1

mission executive director Julita A. Villagomez said they had only minor problems.

"It's pretty good. Pretty smooth," Villagomez said.

The only minor issue the CEC had were calls from different precincts about voters not knowing where to vote, said CEC administrative officer Kayla Igitol.

Igitol disclosed that over 2,000 absentee ballots were picked up at the U.S. Post Office and placed in 11 ballot boxes.

A total of 6,926 cast early votes in the CNMI. Early voting lasted seven days.

Saipan Tribune learned that the boat that picked up votes on the Northern Islands arrived with 10 votes.

With a record-breaking 18,975 voters in the CNMI as of last Oct. 5, this year's election is supposed to be the biggest in Commonwealth history. As of press time, the final number of actual voters was not available yet.

House Speaker Ralph Demapan (R-Saipan) said the voting process went great despite the islands' situation after Yutu.

"I think the election is going smooth. Today is the day for our people to go out and exercise their right to vote," said Demapan, who cast his vote at the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library in Susupe.

While Demapan was casting his vote, the generator at the polling place stopped, apparently due to a lack of fuel. The voting, however, continued. After a few minutes, the generator was up and running again.

Assistant attorney general Barbara Cepeda, who was assigned as an observer at precincts 1 and 2, saw no problem.

"Everything is very smooth and organized. No violation at all," said Cepeda as of 9:30am yesterday.

According to CEC's hourly tally sheet, at Joeten-Kiyu Public Library, 19 people cast their votes during the hour of 7am to 8am, then went up to 58 in the next hour, then 107; 137; and 176 at noon. The number further went up to 214 at 1am, 247 at 2pm, and 275 at 3pm.

At the Marianas Visitors Authority, the trend was the same—the first opening hour had 18 voters. That went up to 33 in the next hour and further increased to 73 by 10am.

At the Garapan Roundhouse, gubernatorial candidate Juan N. Babauta and his running mate, former Education commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan, voted past 10am. Babauta and Sablan were accompanied by their spouses.

The Garapan Roundhouse was the only polling place that had no air-conditioning unit as it is an open venue.

Babauta said the election, so far, was organized. The former governor said he commends CEC for handling the election well.

"I'm glad for that despite the disaster that we just went through, the election is still going through," he said.

Babauta said he would like to see a higher turnout.

"I'm just kind of havig a little concern that maybe people are still in a recovery mood," said Babauta, adding that the excitement to vote may have been dampened by the typhoon disaster.

"I hope that…people will just kind of take a little bit of their time to do an important civic duty to go out and cast their vote for the leadership of the next four years," he said.

Babauta feels good about the election results but, at the same time, a little bit nervous as in every election.

Based on what she has seen at polling sites, Sablan believes the election process has been smooth.

"A lot of candidates and their supporters are out there in the field and they're honking and cheering. So, I guess everyone is excited about election 2018," Sablan said.

Voters elected the governor, the lieutenant governor, the CNMI's delegate to U.S. Congress, the attorney general, senators, House of Representatives members, mayors, municipal councilors, and Board of Education members. They also voted whether to retain or not on the bench CNMI Supreme Court Chief Justice Alexandro C. Castro and Superior Court Associate Judge Teresa Kim-Tenorio.

Polling stations opened at exactly 7am and closed at 7pm.

As of press time last night, tabulation and counting of votes at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe had yet to start.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres availed of the early voting when he and his wife went to the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center last Thursday.

His running mate, Senate President Arnold I. Palacios (R-Saipan), also went for early voting last Saturday.

Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan (Ind-MP) voted at the Garapan Roundhouse, while his challenger, Rep. Angel Demapan (R-Saipan), voted at Dandan Middle School.

DROWNS

From Page 1

porting a drowning incident near the 13 Fishermen memorial monument.

Boating Safety officers arrived at the scene around 8:25pm and spoke to a fisherman who was with the victim and had witnessed the incident.

The fisherman told police that he and the victim were spear fishing when the victim experienced cramping just north of the 13 Fishermen Memorial Monument.

As police were searching the area, they reportedly spotted a beam of light. After following the light for a short distance, police found the victim lying on the rocks by the shoreline.

Personnel of the Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services arrived shortly at around 8:29pm, and tried to revive the victim, to no avail.

The victim was then brought to the Commonwealth Health Center where he was pronounced dead at 8:50pm.

According to an eyewitness, there were three DPS vehicles near the 13 Fishermen Memorial Monument last Monday at a little past 8pm.

The eyewitness said the officers were searching with a flashlight and a man was pulled from the shoreline near the 13 Fishermen Pavilion and placed on a stretcher.

The eyewitness said that the family of the victim arrived at the scene shortly before the victim was brought to CHC.

A 64-year-old man was also found dead near the 13 Fishermen Memorial last Oct. 9.

Although the exact cause of the victim's death remains undetermined, the victim reportedly sustained abrasions on the body, had been taking several medications for heart and kidney disease, and had drank alcohol.

ART

From Page 1

Typhoon Yutu was.

Mangled tin roofs have been a ubiquitous sight since Yutu swept through the CNMI in late October. Wherever you go on Saipan and Tinian, you will see heaps and heaps of tin roofs that were stripped from so many homes and broken abodes—a reminder of so many people scattered to the winds.

Yet Meena Benavente's artistic eye sees a glimmer of hope in heartbreak. If you have been driving around Saipan and noticed painted and restored tin sheets that spread words of unity and encouragement and felt touched by them, then Benavente's vision has been realized.

"I just want all of us to feel that there is hope and this is my way of reaching out to people and wishing everyone the best… I hope to give hope because with hope comes everything else," she said.

Benavente had no intention to draw attention with her paintings but her work did and, at one point, she wanted to stop what she was doing. "Then I had a group of friends that shared with me how inspired they are when they see the messages and that inspires me to keep going," she added.

Benavente stumbled into using salvaged tin sheets as her canvas. "A few days after Typhoon Yutu hit, there were two pieces of tin in my backyard. I couldn't stand it…so I decided to paint on it," she said.

She did get a tetanus shot first before beginning on her painting.

Benavente, a librarian at San Vicente Elementary School, said her art is self-taught but she first makes sketches to see which ones will look good on tin.

Her work right now is scattered all over Saipan: at the airport fence of the American Red Cross-NMI Chapter, along the Dandan main road, along the Koblerville main road, in front of the San Antonio clinic, at the Hopwood Middle School fence, at the Marianas High School fence, one across the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe, and one at the Garapan Fishing Base.

"I place the tin sheets on public land and do not sell these…I am not accepting money. If people donate paint or tin, they get to take a tin in return," Benavente said.

She does commission work when she is asked to paint and makes wood signs but not right now "as tin is my focus."

"The rustier the better, because more stories are held in rusty ones, as it probably has been through a lot," she added.

Benavente does not see herself stopping anytime soon, since Saipan is still on the road to recovery and rebuilding.

She credits the help of her husband, Fernando Benavente, whom she calls her No. 1 supporter. "He helps me put tin on my truck and we display the tin wherever I feel is right."

She also credits a colleague at Saipan Southern High School, Joseph Weaver, for giving her ideas and inspiration.

"Once upon a time these tin sheets kept someone or something safe… Now it is being used to spread hope, which we all need at a time like this," she added.

Yutu multi-agency updates

The Federal Emergency Management Agency Disaster Recovery Center at the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library will re-open for normal hours of operation from 8am to 5pm today and Nov. 15.

On Nov. 16, the DRC will relocate to the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe.

A DRC provides residents an opportunity to meet face-to-face with representatives from the Commonwealth, Federal Emergency Management Agency, and the U.S. Small Business Administration to answer questions about temporary housing, home repairs, replacement of damaged personal property, home and business recovery funding, and other disaster-related needs.

Eligible applicants can register for assistance by calling (800) 621-3362, or applying online at disasterassistance.gov. The TTY number is 1-800-462-7585 for those who are speech or hearing-impaired.

Survivors who are unable to register for assistance before visiting a DRC are welcome to use the center's phone banks and computers.

Las Vegas Night postponed

The Rotary Club of Saipan is postponing its annual Las Vegas Night fundraiser due to ongoing recovery efforts.

Members of the public who have purchased tickets must return them to the Rotarian where they got them to be reimbursed.

The Rotary Club of Saipan plans on holding their fundraising event in late January or early February.

Job openings

In an effort to help the Commonwealth's recovery from Super Typhoon Yutu, FEMA will be hosting a job fair at the Hyatt Regency Saipan Ballroom from 9am to 4pm on Nov. 16, 17, and 18.

The job fair will feature opportunities to apply for full-time, temporary positions such as logistics specialist, telecommunications specialist, information technology specialist, hazard mitigation specialist, travel specialist, administrative specialist, disability integration specialist, and more.

Interested applicants provide:

- Social security card
- Driver's license or U.S. passport.

Applicants will also need to bring an electronic or printed copy of their resume.

If the applicant does not have a resume, FEMA staff will be onsite to assist with creating resumes.

All applicants must be U.S. citizens, be 18 years or older to apply, and must pass a background check. ***(Kimberly A. Bautista)***

Kilili thanks House members for support

"As we come to the end of the election, I want to thank all of the other members of Congress who have contributed financially to my campaign for re-election," said Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) in a statement. "Words are nice, but when other members are willing to give up their own hard-earned campaign money to help me out that means more than words.

"I am very grateful."

Over 100 members of Congress have contributed to the "Kilili for Congress" campaign in this election. The contributions have come from member' individual campaign accounts or through political action committees they belong to. In total, members' contributions to date are over $25,000.

"Asking for money is one of the most embarrassing aspects of being in Congress," said Sablan. "Everyone needs money for advertising, to open campaign offices, to hire staff. But no one I know has ever said they like raising money. I know I do not.

"So, when other members volunteer to help me out, it is a very humbling experience."

Among the members of Congress who donated are Rep. Steny Hoyer (D-Maryland), who is expected to be the majority leader in the new, Democratic-majority House of Representatives. Hoyer has also given Sablan his verbal endorsement.

Rep. Richard Neal (D-Massachusetts), incoming chairman of the powerful Ways and Means Committee, is another contributor. "Ways and Means has responsibility for aspects of healthcare law, such as Medicare," Sablan said. "I am already a cosponsor of legislation that would extend Medicare to cover not just the elderly, but all Americans—including the Marianas and other insular areas.

"There are also issues with the reimbursement rates for dialysis patients and others in rural areas like ours that Chairman Neal could help with."

Rep. Frank Pallone, who will be the chairman of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, is a supporter. Pallone's committee will be responsible for deciding whether the Marianas can get more state-like treatment under Medicaid, the federal program for those who cannot afford private health insurance. "Mr. Pallone's staff is already working with the Territorial Medicaid Working Group that I put together to address the Medicaid 'cliff' that all the insular areas face next year," said Sablan. "It's important to have him on our side."

Immigration odds improve

Rep. Zoe Lofgren (D-California) is another Sablan supporter. "Zoe will chair the immigration subcommittee," said Sablan. "So, she will have jurisdiction over my Northern Mariana Islands Workforce Stabilization Act, which is a way for long-term workers and investors to gain permanent status to live and work in the Marianas without needing CW or E-2C visas. I have been working toward that goal since my first days in Congress and I think the odds of success just went up after Tuesday's election gave Democrats the majority in the House."

Lofgren is a co-sponsor of Sablani's status bill, H.R. 6578, along with 35 other members of Congress.

Other big supporters are the 31 members of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus and the 63 members of the Congressional Asian Pacific Caucus. The political action committees of both caucuses contributed $15,000 to Kilili for Congress

"Both the Hispanic Caucus and the Asian Pacific Caucus will be growing their numbers after this week's election," Sablan noted. "More and more the Democratic majority looks like a reflection of whole America family with more women, more people of color, and people of various faiths."

Other contributors include Reps. Jared Huffman (D-California), Barbara Lee (D-California), Grace Meng (D-New York), Grace Napolitano (D-California), Donald Norcross (D-New Jersey), and Linda Sanchez (D-California).

"I thank all my colleagues, who care about the people of the Marianas and want to continue working with me as a member of the Democratic majority in the 116th U.S. House of Representatives," Sablan said.

Because of his 10 years of service, Sablan will be in line to be a chairman of the House Committee on Education and the Workforce or the House Natural Resources Committee, which has jurisdiction over all insular affairs. ***(PR)***

CUC: 1,141 poles damaged on Saipan; 797 on Tinian

Super Typhoon Yutu damaged or downed 1,141 power poles, 676 transformers, and 671,220 linear feet of conductors on Saipan, according to the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.'s latest count.

CUC also disclosed that five out of nine feeders on Saipan are now online.

On Tinian, CUC counted 797 downed or damaged power poles, 105 transformers, and 507,015 linear feet of conductors. All feeders remain offline but station power is on at the CUC Tinian Power Plant from 6am to 6pm.

Tinian expects the arrival of 200 poles and heavy equipment in the coming days.

On Saipan, CUC executive director Gary P. Camacho said their inspectors and meter readers have retrieved 1,702 meters from damaged locations, households, and facilities.

Camacho said their crew continues to pull meters in Chalan Kiya, Kannat Tabla, Afetnas, San Antonio, Lower Dandan, and Upper Dandan.

He said a total of 145 transformers have been collected on Saipan, while collection of Tinian commenced last Friday.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has been assisting power personnel collect and record damaged transformers and will coordinate shipping of the damaged transformers for disposal.

At this time, Camacho said, 83 pole mounted transformers and various hardware materials arrived from Guam Power Authority.

He said a total of 33 GPA personnel have been assisting in restoration efforts.

Camacho said last Nov. 3, CUC accepted the offer of linemen assistance by Kosrae, Pohnpei, and Chuuk utilities, and that CUC is coordinating with Palau for additional linemen as well.

He said Federal Emergency Management Agency generators and the CUC power grid system continue to supply energy to the water wells, CUC Water Division will energize the water distribution system throughout Saipan in order to scout for leaks and test the different tank service area sections for the water scheduled hours.

Camacho said Navy Hill and Capital Hill water stations are closed until further notice, while As Matuis is closed due to low water levels.

On Tinian, the Marpi Valley Water Station remains open for the public to get water from 2pm to 5pm.

The Maui II Pump Station remains operational and is 98 percent online in San Jose Village and partial areas in Marpo Valley, and partial areas in Marpo Heights I and II. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

Man in stabbing death in Guam pleads not guilty

HAGATNA, Guam (AP)—A man accused of stabbing to death a Guam teenager during a home invasion has pleaded not guilty.

The *Pacific Daily News* reports 24-year-old Brandon Michael Acosta entered his plea Wednesday to charges of aggravated murder and home invasion.

Acosta was arrested in June after 15-year-old Timicca Nauta was found stabbed to death in her Chalan Koda home.

According to court documents, authorities claim that Acosta told another inmate that he killed Nauta.

Authorities allege that Acosta said he did not intend to kill the teen, but "he merely made a mistake" after entering her dark bedroom.

The charges against Acosta are enhanced with special allegations of commission of a felony while on felony release. He was charged in January with family violence.

'...NMI slowly recovering'

More federal and military personnel are expected to arrive in the coming weeks as the CNMI slowly returns to normal after being devastated by two typhoons in nearly two months.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres said last week that over 900 military personnel are already helping the islands recover from Typhoon Mangkhut (Rota) and Super Typhoon Yutu (Saipan and Tinian) aside from those under the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

FEMA is the lead coordinating agency in the recovery efforts, with the help of the local government, the Department of Defense, and other federal agencies. Reservists from the Guam National Guard and Hawaii are also part of the 900 military personnel.

"We continue to see the military helping us. We've seen more military partnership with our DoD and FEMA. We're also expecting a couple 100 more FEMA folks in the coming weeks," said Torres. "They are coming in to assist not only in the recovery efforts but also in the individual and public assistance. They are expected to be pouring out in the coming weeks."

Water is also flowing throughout the islands. "We've seen water across the island, where we have some areas now that have 24-hour water," Torres said.

He added that that they are now putting up tents for those who have lost their homes and are still living in shelters. "We will continue to see those tents since we ordered [more] prior to the storm."

The CNMI government and FEMA has implemented a Temporary Emergency Tent and Roofing Support program to assist residents who wanted to return to their homes while repairs are being done.

Assessments and tent installation are being done on Saipan and will also include Tinian and the inclusion of potential roofing repairs. The FEMA-funded TETRIS program will have technical specialists and personnel coming from federal and military partners—U.S. Air Force, Army, Marines, and Navy.

The program is available to homes that were identified in the still ongoing damage assessments, and single-family homes, duplexes, and townhouses may be eligible for the roofing component. Apartments and businesses are ineligible for the program.

Homes must be structurally sound for the safety of personnel that would work once a home is approved under the program. All CNMI residents are eligible for the program regardless of citizenship.

Federal and military personnel will be provided by the CNMI's partners since the Commonwealth is currently experiencing a shortage of contractors and volunteers.

Overwhelming support

In a separate news briefing in San Antonio, FEMA Region IX deputy regional administrator Bill Roche praised what he describes as an "an overwhelming show of support" to help the CNMI, including the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and the Disaster Medical Assistance Team.

Roche said that HHS and DMAT had teamed up with local doctors. "Thousands have availed medical assistance."

He cited one instance of a trauma situation "where clearly a life was saved because of the actions taken by the team. We still remain to have thousands of federal personnel in the CNMI; FEMA, DoD, HHS, and others."

He added that there's still work to be done in providing every available assistance. "We still have work to do. This is a milestone as we get further into this recovery and as we move toward the disaster recovery."

Seabees from Guam have repaired roofs of houses and other establishments on Rota, with Tinian their next stop. ***(Jon Perez)***

Saipan Adventure aids cleanup of tourist sites

As Saipan and Tinian rise to their feet again following the onslaught of Super Typhoon Yutu in the Marianas last month, the community is also stepping up make the islands' affected scenic and historic sites accessible again to the public and to the expected return of tourists shortly.

The islands' bustling tourism economy based on its tropical natural beauty is anticipated to resume with the reopening of the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport for daytime flights only on Nov. 15, 2018.

While government resources are focused on more populated areas, local businesses like tour operator Saipan Adventure have taken the lead to clear roads to more remote locations that are the foundation of Saipan's charm.

"Saipan is still beautiful," said Saipan Adventure owner Mickey Kim. "At this time, everyone is having a hard time and many have lost much. The government's main focus is to help the people, so we wanted to do give a little extra help by starting to clean Marpi."

On Oct. 30, 2018, tour guides and other staff of Saipan Adventure took to the roads with chainsaws and machetes in hand to restore some of Saipan's most popular scenic sites. First on the list was working with the Department of Lands and Natural Resources to clear access to and collect debris at award-winning dive site Grotto and other roads in Marpi. They also installed security tape around unsafe areas at the site. After several days' work in the Marpi area, the team turned its attention to Forbidden Island, clearing the access road, re-installing signs, and now clearing the hiking trail.

"We are just so thankful to Saipan Adventure and all the other industry companies that are helping the government restore the islands to normalcy. There are really more than we can name, and many of them have staff either providing relief in the villages, collecting debris, and working on site restoration," said Marianas Visitors Authority executive director Christopher A. Concepcion. "Our motto is 'Tourism is Everybody's Business,' and through the outpouring of support we are seeing from the industry in this typhoon recovery, we see that in the Marianas community, 'Everybody is Tourism's Business' too. We are definitely stronger together...that is really one of the characteristics of the Marianas that has shown through in this situation."

The MVA also started clearing other tourist sites in Marpi last week. ***(MVA)***

Staff of tour operator Saipan Adventure cleans award-winning dive site Grotto on Oct. 30, 2018, in the aftermath of Super Typhoon Yutu. The group also reinstalled the site's conservation site and marked unsafe areas with caution tape. MVA

Staff of tour operator Saipan Adventure clears roadways in scenic Marpi on Oct. 31, 2018, in the aftermath of Super Typhoon Yutu. From left are Bernard Nugam, Edward Lacanlale, Alston Santos, and Timothy Tawanpiy. MVA

Staff of tour operator Saipan Adventure clear the roadway to Forbidden Island in scenic Marpi on Nov. 3, 2018, in the aftermath of Super Typhoon Yutu. From left are Edward Lacanlale, Bernard Nugam, and T.J. Hemley. MVA

Staff of tour operator Saipan Adventure clear the trail to Forbidden island on Nov. 3, 2018, in the aftermath of Super Typhoon Yutu. From left are Bernard Nugam, T.J. Hemley, Timothy Tawanpiy, Johnny Rosokow, Edward Lacanlale, and Angel Hermoso. MVA

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Moratorium for USDA home loan borrowers in NMI

The U.S. Department of Agriculture has approved housing payment relief for homeowners in the CNMI who were affected by Super Typhoon Yutu.

A moratorium on USDA home loans provides immediate but temporary assistance by suspending borrower payments for up to 24 months.

Gigi Jones, Rural Development state director for Hawaii, American Samoa, and the Western Pacific, announced the moratorium yesterday, saying the USDA may consider and grant a moratorium when an event is deemed temporary and beyond the borrower's control.

The destruction created by Super Typhoon Yutu severely impacted the livelihoods and property of CNMI residents.

"USDA stands with the residents of CNMI and our thoughts and prayers go out to them during these very challenging and difficult times," Jones said. "The moratorium will allow homeowners with USDA loans to focus on recovery and getting their lives back in order without the added stress of a mortgage payment."

Moratorium letters have been issued to borrowers whose accounts were in good standing prior to the impact of the typhoon.

USDA Rural Development officials will also visit Saipan to meet with homeowners and talk about the moratorium and other loan servicing options that may benefit affected borrowers.

Affected borrowers can also call USDA officials in Guam at (671) 472-7490 to get answers to questions they may have about their loans.

The Department of Agriculture also offers a variety of program flexibilities and other assistance to help repair and rebuild infrastructure, essential community facilities and businesses.

USDA Rural Development provides loans and grants to help expand economic opportunities and create jobs in rural areas. This assistance supports infrastructure improvements; business development; housing; community facilities such as schools, public safety and health care; and high- speed internet access in rural areas. For more information, visit www.rd.usda.gov/hi. ***(PR)***

'For want of a mechanic...'

By WALT GOODRIDGE
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Manny Vitug, a resident of the CNMI for 31 years and owner of ELS Auto Shop, receives a check for $500 from Walt Goodridge's "CNMI Strong" gofundme campaign to rebuild after Super Typhoon Yutu.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

You may recall this proverb:

For want of a nail the shoe was lost.

For want of a shoe the horse was lost.

For want of a horse the rider was lost.

For want of a rider the message was lost.

For want of a message the battle was lost.

For want of a battle the kingdom was lost.

And all for the want of a horseshoe nail.

If you're wondering how your individual contribution—large or small—can help the survivors of Super Typhoon Yutu, or any disaster or crisis, consider that proverb, and consider this: Over its years in business, an affordable auto repair shop with a generous, empathetic owner can help thousands of individuals stay mobile, keep working, earn a paycheck, support their families, and avoid becoming destitute.

For 31 years, Manny Vitug has lived in the CNMI where he has owned and operated a community-focused auto repair shop (ELS Auto) business. He's been known to undercharge people for his services. Some have had their cars repaired "on credit" and paid him back when they're back on their feet and able. For some looking to make a purchase of a used car, he'll often assess a vehicle's road-worthiness just as a courtesy, at no charge.

Now, however, after years of helping people in this way "on credit," after growing a business on two islands, employing others, securing a nest egg for his retirement as well as a legacy for his children, Vitug, in his own greatest time of need, has been told he "doesn't qualify" for assistance or loans because he doesn't have what the banks call a "credit history." Through this campaign, I wanted to show Manny that there are other sorts of credit histories—karmic credit histories, if you will—that might come to his aid.

The success (or failure) of a business can have a domino effect on many others who are not directly connected to it. Vitug has employees, tenants, family members, and customers whose lives, livelihoods, futures, and fates are intimately and intricately connected to his.

Who knows, if you or someone you love ever visits Saipan or Tinian on vacation or to relocate, it might be through Manny's or his son's repair work that your tour guide's vehicle is able to provide a reliable and memorable experience of these beautiful islands.

Yes, it's all connected...from nail to kingdom.

When it comes to telling the story of Saipan's recovery after being hit by Super Typhoon Yutu—the strongest typhoon *ever* to hit the Marianas, the *second* strongest to hit the United States (mainland *and* territories) *ever*, and the *third* most intense in terms of pressure (*ever*), let's not allow ourselves to write or say: *For want of a mechanic, the future was lost...*

Vitug is the first of several individuals I wish to help through the "Be Strong, CNMI Strong" disaster relief campaign.

Listen to Vitug tell his story, view scenes of the devastation, and show your support (and if you can't support, then please "share") at http://www.gofundme.com-/cnmistrong.

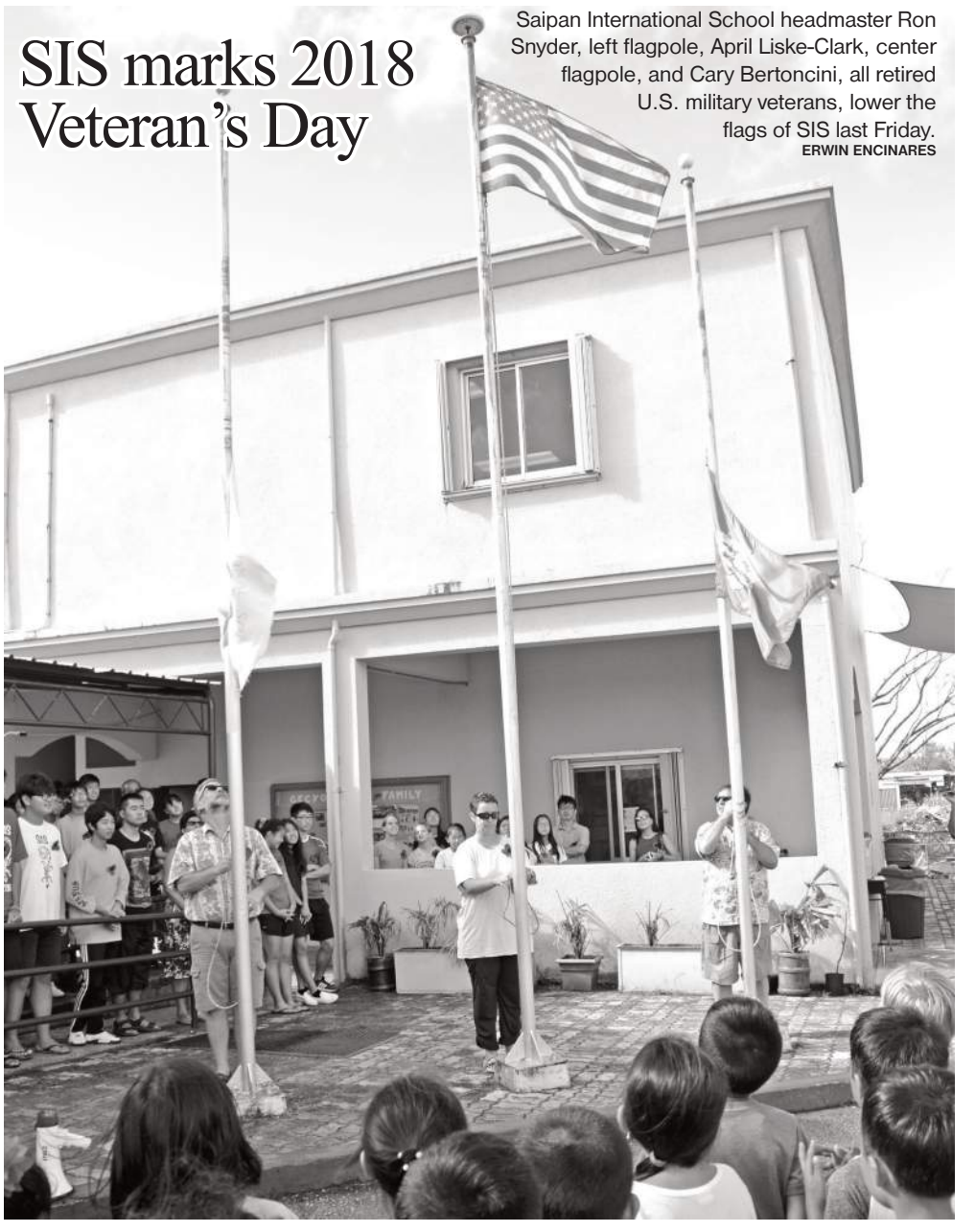
Former Palau president to speak of Compact at UOG

The University of Guam's Political Science Program and the Political Science Student Association will be hosting a lecture with former president Johnson Toribiong of Palau this Thursday, Nov. 15, at the University of Guam in the CLASS Lecture Hall, starting at 6pm.

Toribiong served as president of Palau from 2009 to 2013, during which he negotiated the renewal of Palau's Compact of Free Association with the United States. He is a prominent lawyer with a *juris* doctorate from the University of Washington, a former senator, and a former ambassador to Taiwan.

"As the discussion of self-determination becomes more prominent for the island of Guam, the experiences that our neighboring islands have endured, as well as their negotiation process with the United States, is an area that we can all benefit from when choosing our autonomy," said Arun R. Swamy, associate professor of political science and coordinator of the Political Science Program at UOG. ***(PR)***

SIS marks 2018 Veteran's Day



Saipan International School headmaster Ron Snyder, left flagpole, April Liske-Clark, center flagpole, and Cary Bertoncini, all retired U.S. military veterans, lower the flags of SIS last Friday.
ERWIN ENCINARES

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Still reeling from the devastation of Super Typhoon Yutu on Saipan and Tinian,

Saipan International School went ahead and marked Veterans Day last Friday.

The school also lowered its flags to half-staff, with three staff members, all whom have served in the U.S. military, doing the honors.

The commemoration, called "Remembrance Poppies," was done in collaboration with the school's Rotary Interact Club students. Remembrance Poppies is an annual tradition that marks the end of the First World War. It is more popular in other countries.

"…In Canada, the former British colonies, and in the United Kingdom, it is a very important thing they do every year," said SIS headmaster Ron Snyder, a retired U.S. Army veteran who served in the Gulf War.

Snyder along with retired Navy veteran April Liske-Clark, the school's biology teacher, and retired Coast Guard veteran Cary Bertoncini, the school's English as a Second Language coordinator, led the lowering of the flags at the SIS campus.

Snyder, sharing some of the history of the poppy, said a member of the Canadian military in Belgium during World War I saw poppies growing in between the graves of his fallen comrades, inspiring him to write, "In Flanders Field."

"To this day, the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and many people in England, Wales, Scotland, Australia, South America, and Canada wear Remembrance Poppies on Nov. 11," he said, adding that the poem was read for the students and parents and that each attendee of the ceremony received a Remembrance Poppy.

Road closures at American Memorial Park

The American Memorial Park will be closing two roads today, Nov. 14, and tomorrow, Nov. 15, to ensure the public's safety related to tree removal efforts to address trees damaged during Super Typhoon Yutu.

Over the two days, the off-island National Park Service sawyer team (a team of chainsaw experts), with the support of the Office of the Governor and Department of Public Safety, will work to clear trees in two park areas: Micro Beach Road and the Outer Cover Marine.

Today, Micro Beach Road, from the American Memorial Park maintenance shop to the Micro Beach Pavilion, will be closed to all traffic.

Tomorrow, Thursday, the Outer Cove Marina, from Boating Safety out to the piers will be closed to all traffic.

"We appreciate your patience and understanding as we work to clean up the park over the next several months," said a statement from National Parks Service, which operates the park.

For more information, contact chief ranger Jayson Tinney at (670) 234-7207 Ext. 2020, by email at jayson_tinney@nps.gov., or park superintendent Barbara Alberti at (670) 234-7207 Ext. 2020, by e-mail at barbara_alberti@nps.gov. ***(NPS)***

Dear People of the
Commonwealth,

I have been honored by the
extraordinary privilege
you have given me
to represent you in Congress,
and I have been humbled
by the outpouring
of your support.

Please know that I,
together with Andrea,
our children and family,
and the Kilili for Congress committee,
am very grateful for your support.

With gratitude and warm personal regards,
I remain,

Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan

Paid for by Kilili for Congress

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
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EDITORIAL

Crenshaw's SNL appearance shows what it is to be American

Wearing a crisp suit adorned with the pin of a Navy Seal and a black patch over his right eye, U.S. Rep.-elect Dan Crenshaw went a long way Saturday night toward offering all of us some things we desperately need in our current political culture: a sense of humor, a sense of forgiveness and a sense of magnanimity that no matter what our differences, we are all in this together as Americans.

Over the weekend, Crenshaw appeared on "Saturday Night Live," where a week earlier, cast member Pete Davidson mocked his appearance because of that eye patch. Davidson failed to mention that Crenshaw wears the patch because he lost his right eye in 2012 following the detonation of an IED while serving in Afghanistan.

Crenshaw could easily have been a jerk in return. He wasn't. He made a simple and transparently true statement that the wounds of our veterans should never be held up for mockery or sport.

Then he did one better. He showed up on SNL next to Davidson and gave us some real laughs, as well as a lesson we can all remember.

In a political era when people love nothing more than to be offended and insist on apologies for said offenses, we were thrilled to see someone step up as the adult. And we were glad "SNL" gave Crenshaw the platform it did.

It was heartening to see a display of grace, humor and humility play out live on national television. We hope others will watch this and learn from it, recognizing that despite our political differences, we're real people and not cardboard cutouts.

In a final word, Crenshaw talked about the importance of the phrase "never forget" and what it means to the relationship between civilians and members of the armed forces. "And never forget those we lost on 9/11, heroes like Pete's father," Crenshaw said. "So I'll just say, Pete, never forget."

Pete's dad, Scott Davidson, was a New York City firefighter who lost his life on 9/11. Scott Davidson was last seen doing what heroes do: running toward danger and not away from it. In this case, running up the stairs of the Marriott World Trade Center shortly before it collapsed. Crenshaw served in Afghanistan, fighting al-Qaida and the Taliban in response to the vicious attacks of Sept. 11, 2001.

What we saw on "SNL" was a reminder that, as Americans, our lives are inextricably linked. In this age of terror and division, we are stronger when we realize we are one people.

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I FIRED THE ATTORNEY GENERAL...
AND PICKED A FIGHT WITH CNN...
AS A WAY TO MOVE NEWS COVERAGE AWAY FROM THE MIDTERM RESULTS.
AND YOU THOUGHT LIBERALS CONTROLLED THE NEWS MEDIA.
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MIKE SMITH

Ah, the America of my childhood. So full of bunk and bigotry

By MARY SCHMICH
Chicago Tribune

In the America of my childhood, the Crayola box contained a crayon labeled "flesh."

Flesh was intended to approximate the skin color of people. People, if the Crayola box was to be believed, came in one color, a pinky beige.

It was just one of the crazy things I was taught growing up.

In the America of my childhood, there were apparently only two genders, girls and boys, and what you were born with was what you were stuck with. The girls and boys grew up to be men and women. The men and women became Mom and Dad.

Mom and Dad were always married. Dad worked and Mom probably stayed home with the kids, unless she was black, in which case she might leave her home to go help take care of a white family's house and kids.

In those days, nobody had two moms or two dads because, well, you know, nobody was gay.

In the America of my childhood, "gay" meant lighthearted and carefree.

Trans? It was not a word, though "transatlantic" was. It meant across the ocean and over to Europe, where our fathers had fought a war in countries occupied by people they called Frogs, Wops and Krauts. Some went to Japan and fought the Japs.

In the America of my childhood, we proudly learned that we belonged to a nation of immigrants. The immigrants came on transatlantic boats from places like England, Ireland, Germany, Poland. They were mostly pinky beige.

Polack jokes were popular.

And let's not forget the Italian, Christopher Columbus, who in fourteen hundred and ninety-two sailed the ocean blue to discover the America of my childhood.

So many ways that storyline was wrong, but why complicate a good yarn?

In that long-ago but not so distant America, a married woman took her husband's last name, and in some matters, his first name too. So Mary Ellen Findlay, for example, became Mrs. F. George Schmich, her "maiden" name, as it was called, subsumed into a man's identity.

Unmarried women were, sadly, spinsters.

In my childhood America, divorce was scandalous and usually the woman's fault. Pity children like the girl named Nancy who transferred into my grade school. When we heard Nancy lived in an apartment with her divorced mother, we were shocked. Divorce was a sin and, to make matters worse, nobody reputable lived in apartments, except New Yorkers.

In that great America of old, children gathered in school yards and backyards to play cowboys and Indians. The cowboys had toy guns. The Indians had toy bows and arrows. The Indians, also known as Injuns, spoke only one word: "How!" They usually lost.

Injuns weren't always the enemy, though. They made good mascots.

In that world—the world of "Ozzie and Harriet," "Leave it to Beaver" and "Father Knows Best"—almost all the people on TV were white, except Amos 'n' Andy, two black sitcom characters who lived in Harlem.

In that long-ago America, in which nearly 90 percent of the population was white, brown skin was exotic and entertaining, except when it was scary.

In those days, Mexicans were people who lived in Mexico, where they wore big sombreros and said things like "Ay, caramba!"

Arabs—pronounced A-rabs—belonged to cartoons and movies, where they possessed magical powers that they exercised with words like "Abracadabra!" and "Open, sesame!"

In my childhood America, a white man named Ray Stevens had a big hit with the song "Ahab the Arab," about the "sheikh of the burning sands," a woman named Fatima and a camel named Clyde.

And let's not forget China. American children were told to eat everything on their plate because children in China were starv-

See BIGOTRY on Next Page

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One calamity after another, and yet we always endure

By STEVE LOPEZ
Los Angeles Times

LOS ANGELES—We have no hurricanes, cyclones or statewide freezes in California.

Everything else, we have.

Earthquakes, yes. Torrential downpours, yes. Mudslides, yes. Extended droughts, yes. A president who kicks us when we're down, yes.

All that, as well as mass shootings and wind-whipped killer firestorms that devour parched vegetation, homes, people and everything else in their path.

A town named Paradise has been reduced to ash.

More than three dozen are dead in the Tubbs fire.

The Woolsey fire marches on West Hills and Malibu.

Thousand Oaks residents went from mass-killing vigils to praying that their homes would not burn.

You stand in wait of a tsunami, squadrons of locusts or volcanic eruptions, all of which are within the realm, and wonder how much more California must endure.

The answer, unfortunately, is quite a bit, if history is a good marker. And if you consider the fact that the state is built for disaster, yet we are helpless against its charms, drawn by growing millions to a theater of calamity.

The 1906 earthquake and fire that destroyed San Francisco is still a reminder that the state is always an instant away from major catastrophe. We are cracked from Eureka to Escondido, a pair of fragile plates grinding in different directions, and the southern portion of the San Andreas fault is frighteningly overdue for a quake that could kill thousands and knock out water, power, transportation and communication lines for months.

The topography of mountain and basin teams with drought-/deluge cycles to invite wicked wildfires, and we're addicted to building in suspiciously unsafe places.

"From the mid-19th to the early 20th centuries, earthquakes, floods, fire, disease and other catastrophes shaped and re-shaped California's natural environment and the new towns and cities growing up across the state," said the text of a 2011 University of California exhibit on the state's history of natural disaster.

"Before European and American development, native Californian groups altered the landscape purposefully to preserve it, and avoided areas they knew to be dangerous. But by the mid-1800s, the Gold Rush brought a population boom. These newcomers naturally built new towns and cities around bays, harbors, rivers, mountains and fertile valleys. But because they didn't know the landscape's history, some communities were built on top of potentially dangerous environmental factors, such as flood plains and unseen earthquake faults."

Leveled residences line a block following the Camp Fire in Paradise, Calif., on Monday, Nov. 12, 2018. AP

Some climate scientists warn that the drought/deluge cycle is tied to global warming, and could intensify. Before all of California is reduced to kindling, we need to rethink how and where we build.

Housing developments, some of them relatively new, line the San Andreas in the Coachella Valley, and cities throughout Southern California have done little to shore up seismic safety on commercial and residential developments.

Maybe the best way to show how much we love living in California is to better understand its history and respect its power.

"Surprisingly, most disaster survivors—whether displaced by flood, fire, or earthquake—did not leave or move to safer ground," said the text of the UC Berkeley exhibit. "Instead, people worked to rebuild and reshape their cities in the same place. They used newer and better building materials and techniques, hoping to create sturdier structures that would withstand another natural disaster."

Well, they did and they didn't. And the time to rethink the planning of the landscape is before, rather than after the damage is done.

All over California in the last few days, we've seen stories of people offering support to those who have lost loved ones or property.

We've seen firefighters and other responders risking their lives to save others.

We cling to the edge of the continent, shaken by loss, too foolish to run, or too much in love.

Limiting social media to 10 minutes a day can improve mental health

By SHANNON GREEN
ORLANDO SENTINEL

Feeling lonely or depressed? Get off of social media to start your journey toward better mental health, particularly during the holiday season.

It's long been talked about that social media increases depression and anxiety, but the first causal study in an effort to prove this theory was released by the University of Pennsylvania.

Researches divided 143 college students between the ages of 18 and 22 into two groups and asked one group to continue their regular usage of Facebook, Snapchat and Instagram while the other group limited their social media usage to just 10 minutes a day.

After three weeks of evaluation for the fall and spring semesters, the conclusion said what a lot Americans have already suspected; less social media leads to better mental health.

A woman uses the Facebook application on her smartphone. MAKSYM PROTSENK/DREAMSTIME

"When you're not busy getting sucked into clickbait social media, you're actually spending more time on things that are more likely to make you feel better about your life," said psychologist Melissa Hunt, who conducted the study. "In general, I would say, put your phone down and be with the people in your life."

The study only measured iPhone users and the majority of the subjects were female. Additionally, researchers only tracked some social media sites on cell phones excluding the possibility of subjects logging on to Facebook with their laptops. The study also excluded social media applications like Twitter, Pinterest, Tumbler and dating apps.

Even still, students who participated acknowledged that limiting their social media usage decreased feelings of depression, loneliness and their FOMO (fear of missing out).

"I was definitely more conscious that someone was monitoring my usage," one participant reported. "I ended up using less and felt happier and like I could focus on school and not (be as) interested in what everyone is up to."

BIGOTRY

From Page 10

ing. Those who disobeyed might be spanked.

Even Dr. Benjamin Spock, who wrote the book that told our mothers how to raise us, said spanking was OK (though he later deplored it), and most American parents disciplined their children with their hands.

I could go on, but you get the point. The America of my childhood was a great land in many ways, but it was full of bigotry and bunk.

When I think back on all the crazy things taught to children of my generation, by adults who were poorly taught themselves, I marvel that a country steeped in so much ignorance has advanced as much as it has.

The ignorance hasn't vanished. There remain people raised in the America of my childhood who cling to the ridiculous things we were taught.

But what makes this country great isn't what we used to be. Our greatness lies in our ability to change. In fits and starts, we keep opening to new and more nuanced understandings of ourselves and other people.

"We" isn't everyone, but it's enough that even in the midst of the daily madness there's cause for hope.

The question we should ask ourselves today is: What are we teaching children now that we'll look back on as ignorance?

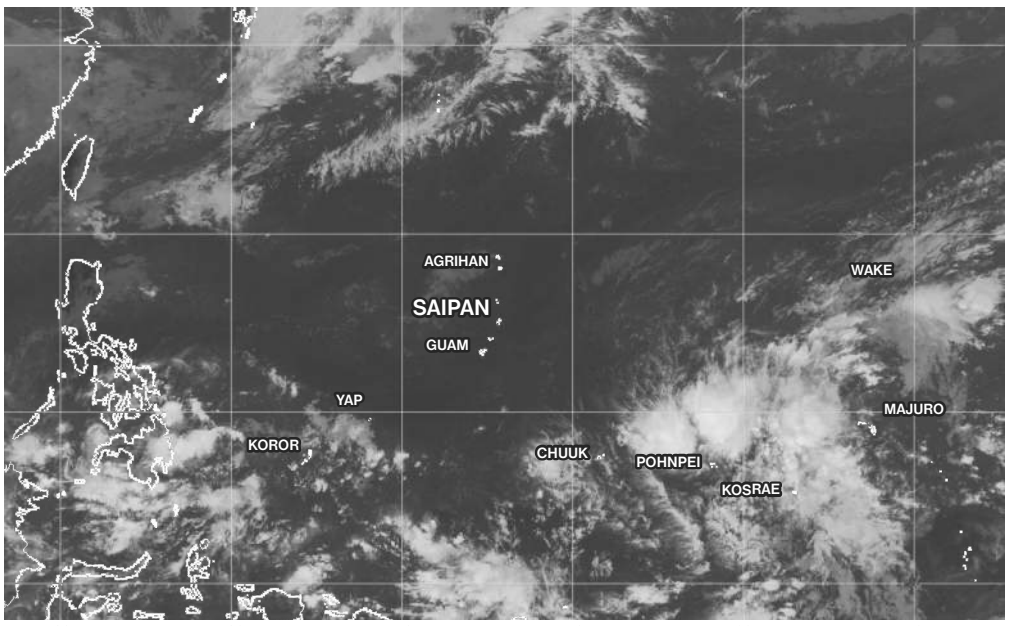
By the way, the "flesh" crayon was renamed "peach."

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers. Northeast winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly sunny with isolated showers. Northeast winds 15 to 20 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲90° ▼78°	▲90° ▼78°	▲89° ▼78°	▲90° ▼78°	▲90° ▼78°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 6:03 AM, TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2018
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Heavy showers associated with Invest 98C will remain well SE to SW of the Marianas, with only isolated showers expected from this tropical disturbance between Thursday and Saturday. Meanwhile, a trade-wind disturbance tracking westward toward CNMI will have a minimal effect on local weather conditions as the bulk of heavy rain will remain well offshore or likely diminish before entering the Marianas Friday evening. Thus, anticipate dry weather conditions to follow after Saturday morning. We will continue to monitor Invest 98C closely and provide updates should this tropical disturbance bring scattered showers over the next few days.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	87° / 79°
Palau	Thunderstorms	86° / 78°
Yap	Partly Cloudy	87° / 80°
Chuuk	Partly Cloudy	86° / 80°
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	87° / 76°
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	87° / 76°
Majuro	Thunderstorms	86° / 80°

AROUND THE GLOBE		▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Partly Cloudy	66° / 55°
Beijing	Cloudy	52° / 32°
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	79° / 73°
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	84° / 71°
London	Sunny	55° / 46°
Los Angeles	Sunny	77° / 51°
Manila	Partly Cloudy	90° / 77°
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	63° / 48°
Miami	Sunny	83° / 77°
New York	Partly Cloudy	41° / 32°
Osaka	Sunny	64° / 46°
Paris	Sunny	57° / 45°
Busan	Partly Cloudy	63° / 48°
Rome	Partly Cloudy	68° / 46°
Salem	Rain	52° / 43°
San Francisco	Sunny	64° / 47°
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	57° / 37°
Tokyo	Sunny	59° / 46°
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	43° / 35°

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- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		FEET
5:54 AM	LOW TIDE	0.05
1:27 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.74
7:24 PM	LOW TIDE	1.22
11:02 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.42

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:18 AM	5:44 PM
Thursday	6:18 AM	5:44 PM
Friday	6:19 AM	5:44 PM
Saturday	6:19 AM	5:44 PM
Sunday	6:19 AM	5:44 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	11:36 AM	11:14 PM	-
Thursday	12:20 AM	-	-
Friday	-	12:03 AM	1:01 PM
Saturday	-	12:52 AM	1:41 PM
Sunday	-	1:40 AM	2:20 PM

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF NOVEMBER 1, 2018

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA117	9:15am	9:55am	Daily
UA105	6:25pm	7:05pm	2, 4

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA174	7:30am	8:11am	Daily
UA104	4:50pm	5:31pm	2, 4

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

– temporarily suspended

7C3451	3:15am	6:30am	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

– temporarily suspended

7C3452	9:35pm	2:00am+1	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
7C3452	10:05pm	2:00am+1	1

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

– ALL FLIGHTS temporarily suspended

TW9308	1:10am	4:10am	3, 4
TW308	1:35am	5:20am	Daily
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
TW9308	3:20am	6:30am	2
TW9308	3:25am	6:30am	5
7C3403	4:35am	8:25am	Daily
7C3401	4:30pm	8:25pm	Daily

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

– ALL FLIGHTS temporarily suspended

7C3402	10:10am	3:30pm	Daily
TW9307	6:30pm	12:10am+1	2, 3
TW307	7:00pm	12:35am+1	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
TW307	7:05pm	12:35am+1	1
OZ625	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
OZ625	8:20pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
TW9307	9:00pm	2:20am+1	1
TW9307	9:05pm	2:25am+1	4
7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

– temporarily suspended

3U8648	6:10am	8:30am	1, 4, 5, 7

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

– temporarily suspended

3U8647	10:30pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)

– temporarily suspended

JD396	7:30am	11:00am	1
JD396	4:50pm	7:55pm	4

HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN

– temporarily suspended

JD395	8:05am	3:30pm	4
JD395	9:35pm	5:00am+1	7

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

– temporarily suspended

3U8646	4:20am	7:35am	2, 6

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

– temporarily suspended

3U8645	8:20pm	2:50am+1	1, 5

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

– temporarily suspended

MU764	1:30am	6:00am	3, 5, 7

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

– temporarily suspended

MU763	4:55pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

UA117/183	9:15am	9:40pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA117/183	9:15am	9:50pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA117/193	9:15am	11:50pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR
UA105/183	6:25pm	9:50pm	2, 4 via GUM

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA182/174	12:40am	8:11am+1	3, 6 via GUM
PR110/UA174	10:05pm	8:11am+1	Daily via GUM
UA192/174	10:30pm	8:11am+1	2, 5 via GUM-ROR
UA184/174	10:55pm	8:11am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

UA117/159	9:15am	11:00pm	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via GUM
UA105/159	6:25pm	11:00pm	2, 4 via GUM

Temporarily suspended:

HX077	2:00am	5:00am	1, 4
UO43	5:40am	8:40am	1, 3, 5, 7

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

UA116/174	11:45pm	8:11am+1	2, 4, 6 via GUM
UA116/174	11:55pm	8:11am+1	1, 3, 5 via GUM

Temporarily suspended:

HX07	5:15pm	12:15am+1	3, 7
UO42	6:50pm	1:45am+1	7
UO42	9:30pm	4:25am+1	2, 4, 6

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The* Saipan Tribune *is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

SAIPAN TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301	7:30AM	8:00AM	Daily
1302	11:30AM	12:00PM	Daily
1303	4:00PM	4:30PM	Daily

ROTA TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3101	8:15AM	8:45AM	Daily
3102	1:45PM	2:15PM	Daily
3103	4:45PM	5:15PM	Daily

ROTA TO GUAM

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15PM	12:45PM	Daily

GUAM TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
4301	1:00PM	1:30PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
1202	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
1203	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
1204	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
1205	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
1206	12:00PM	12:15PM	Daily
1207	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
1208	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
1209	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
1210	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
1211	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
1212	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2102	7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
2103	8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
2104	9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
2105	10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
2106	11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
2107	12:30PM	12:45PM	Daily
2108	1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2109	2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
2110	3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
2111	4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
2112	5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
2113	6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

Business

Amazon HQ favorites: Similar basics but different vibes

NEW YORK (AP)—The communities said to be favored to become homes to a pair of big, new East Coast bases for Amazon are both riverfront stretches of major metropolitan areas with ample transportation and space for workers.

But there are plenty of differences between New York's Long Island City and Crystal City in northern Virginia.

Set within eyeshot of the nation's capital, Crystal City is a thicket of 1980s-era office towers trying to plug into new economic energy after thousands of federal jobs moved elsewhere.

Rapidly growing Long Island City is an old manufacturing area already being reinvented as a hub for 21st-century industry, creativity and urbane living.

Seattle-based Amazon, which set out last year to situate one additional headquarters but now may reportedly open two, has declined to comment on its plans. But people familiar with the talks said this week that Long Island City and Crystal City have emerged as front runners for the "HQ2" project and its total of 50,000 jobs.

A look at two communities said to be at the top of Amazon's list.

LONG ISLAND CITY

It's already the fastest-developing neighborhood in the nation's most populous city, and Amazon could pump up the volume in this buzzy part of Queens.

If chosen, the neighborhood stands to burnish New York City's reputation as a tech capital. Landing Amazon would also cement Long Island City's transformation from a faded manufacturing zone to a vibrant, of-the-moment enclave of waterfront skyscrapers, modernized warehouses and artsy-tech ambience across the East River from midtown Manhattan.

"I joke that we're experiencing explosive growth 30 years in the making," says Elizabeth Lusskin, president of the Long Island City Partnership, a neighborhood development group.

Internet traffic hijack disrupts Google services

An internet diversion that rerouted data traffic through Russia and China disrupted several Google services on Monday, including search and cloud-hosting services.

Service interruptions lasted for nearly two hours and ended about 5:30 p.m. EST., network service companies said. In addition to Russian and Chinese telecommunications companies, a Nigerian internet provider was also involved.

Google confirmed Monday's disruption on a network status page but said only that it believed the cause was "external to Google ." The company had little additional comment.

The specific method employed, formally known as border gateway protocol hijacking, can knock essential services offline and facilitate espionage and financial theft. Most network traffic to Google services —94 percent as of October 27—is encrypted, which shields it from prying eyes even if diverted.

Alex Henthorn-Iwane, an executive at the network-intelligence company ThousandEyes, called Monday's incident the worst affecting Google that his company has seen.

He said he suspected nation-state involvement because the traffic was effectively landing at state-run China Telecom. A recent study by U.S. Naval War College and Tel Aviv University scholars says China systematically hijacks and diverts U.S. internet traffic.

Much of the internet's underpinnings are built on trust, a relic of the good intentions its designers assumed of users. One consequence: little can be done if a nation-state or someone with access to a major internet provider decides to reroute traffic.

Henthorn-Iwane says Monday's hijacking may have been "a war-game experiment."

In two recent cases, such rerouting has affected financial sites. In April 2017, one affected Mastercard and Visa among other sites. This past April, another hijacking enabled cryptocurrency theft .

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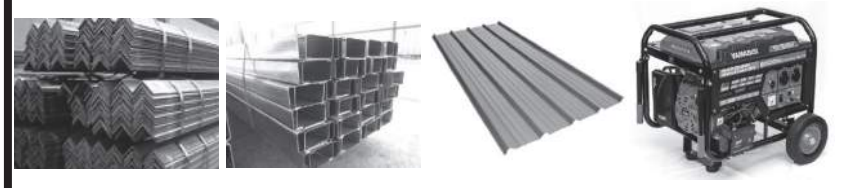

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Nation

Dead in cars and homes: Northern California fire toll at 42

PARADISE, Calif. (AP)—The dead were found in burned-out cars, in the smoldering ruins of their homes, or next to their vehicles, apparently overcome by smoke and flames before they could jump in behind the wheel and escape. In some cases, there were only charred fragments of bone, so small that coroner's investigators used a wire basket to sift and sort them.

At least 42 people were confirmed dead in the wildfire that turned the Northern California town of Paradise and outlying areas into hell on earth, making it the deadliest blaze in state history. The search for bodies continued Monday. Authorities said they were bringing in cadaver dogs, two portable morgue units from the military and an additional 160 search and rescue personnel to help find human remains.

The following message will be displayed to users with unsupported browsers: Your browser does not support the HTML tag. Try viewing this in a modern browser like Chrome, Safari, Firefox or Internet Explorer 9 or later.

"This is an unprecedented event," Butte County Sheriff Kory Honea told an evening news conference. "If you've been up there, you also know the magnitude of the scene we're dealing with. I want to recover as many remains as we possibly can, as soon as we can. Because I know the toll it takes on loved ones."

Officials said they did not know how many people were missing four days after the fire swept over the town of 27,000 and practically wiped it off the map with flames so fierce that authorities brought in a mobile DNA lab and forensic anthropologists to help identify the dead.

Cal Fire Chief 'Every year it seems to get worse'

Meanwhile, a landowner near where the blaze began, Betsy Ann Cowley, said she got an email from Pacific Gas & Electric Co. the day before the fire last week telling her that crews needed to come onto her property because the utility's power lines were causing sparks. PG&E had no comment on the email, and state officials said the cause of the inferno was under investigation.

As the search for victims dragged on, friends and relatives of the missing called hospitals, police, shelters and the coroner's office in hopes of learning what became of their loved ones. Paradise was a popular retirement community, and about a quarter of the population was over 65.

Tad Teays awaited word on his 90-year-old dementia-stricken mother. Darlina Duarte was desperate for information about her half brother, a diabetic who was largely housebound because he had lost his legs. And Barbara Hall tried in vain to find out whether her aunt and the woman's husband, who are in their 80s and 90s, made it out alive from their retirement community.

"Did they make it in their car? Did they get away? Did their car go over the edge of a mountain somewhere? I just don't know," said Hall, adding that the couple had only a landline and calls were not going through to it.

Megan James, of Newfoundland, Canada, searched via Twitter from the other side of the continent for information about her aunt and uncle, whose house in Paradise burned down and whose vehicles were still there. On Monday, she asked on Twitter for someone to take over the posts, saying she is "so emotionally and mentally exhausted."

"I need to sleep and cry," James added. "Just PRAY. Please."

AP

An air tanker drops water on a fire along the Ronald Reagan (118) Freeway in Simi Valley, Calif., Monday, Nov. 12, 2018.

Top 10 deadliest California wildfires

	Fire name, cause	Date	County	Acres	Deaths
1.	CAMP (Unknown)	Nov. 2018	Butte	113,000	29
	GRIFFITH PARK (Unknown)	Oct. 1933	Los Angeles	47	29
2.	TUNNEL - Oakland Hills (Rekindle)	Oct. 1991	Alameda	1,600	25
3.	TUBBS (Under Investigation)	Oct. 2017	Napa & Sonoma	36,807	22
4.	CEDAR (Human Related)	Oct. 2003	San Diego	273,246	15
5.	RATTLESNAKE (Arson)	July 1953	Glenn	1,340	15
6.	LOOP (Unknown)	Nov. 1966	Los Angeles	2,028	12
7.	HAUSER CREEK (Human Related)	Oct. 1943	San Diego	13,145	11
8.	INAJA (Human Related)	Nov. 1956	San Diego	43,904	11
9.	RON ALPS COMPLEX (Lightning)	Aug. 2008	Trinity	105,855	10
10.	REDWOOD VALLEY (Unknown)	Oct. 2017	Mendocino	36,523	9

Source: calfire.ca.gov
Graphic: Staff, TNS

Confirmed fatalities as of Nov. 12

New blazes fan fresh fears in California as some return home

MALIBU, Calif. (AP)—The sky was black and flames on the next ridge were fast approaching when Paul Rasmussen, his pregnant wife and 6-year-old daughter fled their mountainside Malibu home Friday for what they thought might be the last time.

His only hope that the large home, once billed in real estate listings as "Shangri-La," would survive was that his next-door neighbor, Randy Berkeley, would not only protect his own house, but also Rasmussen's.

On Monday, after driving a winding road across charred slopes and past smoldering ruins of other houses in Decker Canyon, Rasmussen wrapped Berkeley in a bear hug of thanks after finding their two houses still standing untouched by fire.

"Without him, I knew it was going to be a loss," Rasmussen said. "He just went above and beyond."

Fire officials lifted some evacuation orders Monday while warning Southern California residents to remain vigilant as strong winds fanned new fires.

While some returned home, others were told to leave. As one major freeway reopened, another was closed.

The return to normal for some was juxtaposed with the arrival of chaos for others, illustrating how quickly conditions can turn when erratic Santa Ana winds meet a spark in tinder-dry brush.

At least two people have been killed and 370 homes have been destroyed in the fires that erupted last week west of downtown Los Angeles. It is likely that crews assessing damage will discover hundreds more homes lost in the canyons and steep hillsides in inland and coastal areas, Los Angeles County Fire Chief Daryl Osby said.

Over 200,000 people were still under evacuation orders even as some residents were allowed to return to inland communities of Agoura Hills, Westlake Village and Newbury Park.

Osby emphasized that about 57,000 homes have been saved from the so-called Woolsey fire, which burned a path about 20 miles (32 kilometers) long and 14 miles (22.5 kilometers) wide—from northwest of Los Angeles through suburbs and the Santa Monica Mountains to the Malibu coast.

Officials reopened U.S. Highway 101 late Sunday to allow people to get into neighborhoods that had been threatened by fire, marking positive developments even though gusty, dry winds returned and fanned new fires.

Democrat Kyrsten Sinema wins Arizona US Senate seat

PHOENIX (AP)—Democrat Kyrsten Sinema won Arizona's open U.S. Senate seat Monday in a race that was among the most closely watched in the nation, beating Republican Rep. Martha McSally in the battle to replace GOP Sen. Jeff Flake.

The three-term congresswoman won after a slow vote count that dragged on for nearly a week after voters went to the polls on Nov. 6. She becomes Arizona's first Democratic U.S. senator since 1994. Her win cemented Arizona as a swing state after years of Republican dominance.

Sinema portrayed herself as a moderate who works across the aisle to get things done. Sinema first came to prominence as an openly bisexual Green Party activist in Phoenix.

McSally, a former Air Force pilot who embraced President Donald Trump after opposing him during the 2016 elections, had claimed that Sinema's anti-war protests 15 years ago disqualified her and said one protest amounted to what she called "treason."

Sinema and supporters rushed to a Scottsdale resort Monday night after the latest batch of ballots showed her lead to be insurmountable.

"Arizona rejected what has been far too common in our country - name calling, petty, personal attacks and doing and saying what it takes to get elected," Sinema said as scores of backers waved her purple-and-yellow campaign sign. "But Arizona proved that there is a better way forward."

McSally posted a video message to twitter. "I just called Kyrsten Sinema and congratulated her on becoming Arizona's first female senator after a hard-fought battle," McSally said in the video, her pet golden retriever by her side. "I wish her all success as she represents Arizona in the Senate."

During her six years in Congress, Sinema built one of most centrist records in the Democratic caucus, and she voted for bills backed by Trump more than 60 percent of the time. She backed legislation increasing penalties against people in the country illegally who commit crimes.

McSally's attacks on Sinema reached back more than 15 years, when Sinema was a Green Party spokeswoman and liberal activist.

McSally backed Trump's tax cut, border security and the Affordable Care Act repeal agenda as she survived a three-way GOP primary in August, defeating two conservative challengers who claimed her support for Trump was fake. McSally also campaigned on her military record and support for the Armed Forces.

Asia

Amnesty withdraws award from Myanmar's Suu Kyi

NEW YORK (AP)—Amnesty International has withdrawn its highest honor from Myanmar's leader Aung San Suu Kyi in light of what it said was the Nobel Peace Prize laureate's "shameful betrayal of the values she once stood for."

The human rights organization announced Monday that its secretary general, Kumi Naidoo, informed Suu Kyi that it was revoking her 2009 Ambassador of Conscience Award.

Amnesty has criticized the failure of Suu Kyi and her government to speak out about military atrocities against the Rohingya Muslim population.

Naidoo said Amnesty expected Suu Kyi to use her "moral authority to speak out against injustice wherever" she saw it, especially in Myanmar.

"Today, we are profoundly dismayed that you no longer represent a symbol of hope, courage, and the undying defense of human rights," Naidoo told her.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Rohingya fearful of doctors keep faith healers in business

KUTUPALONG, Bangladesh (AP)—Abul Kalam sits cross-legged on the floor of his tiny mud hut and whispers prayers into a small plastic bottle filled with water, creating what he says is a potion that will cure stomach cramps. "I got these powers in my dreams," he says. "People come to me because I heal them." Kalam is a boidu, or faith healer, and for decades has been treating fellow Rohingya Muslims, first in Myanmar's northern Rakhine state and now in a squalid camp in Bangladesh, where 700,000 Rohingya took refuge last year after escaping a campaign of government violence at home. Faith healers have long been sought out in Rohingya society to treat physical and mental ailments. Their trade has thrived in part because of traditional beliefs and in part because Rohingya have lacked access to modern medical care in Buddhist-majority Myanmar, where they are one of the most persecuted minority groups in the world. Access to medical care has changed for the better in Bangladesh, where thousands of aid workers offer Rohingya everything from vaccinations to psychological support. Doctors Without Borders, which runs four inpatient hospitals and a dozen medical centers in the area, says it has provided more than 800,000 outpatient consultations and admitted more than 15,000 patients since August 2017.

Fake images of woman acquitted of blasphemy roil Pakistan

ISLAMABAD (AP)—The Pakistani government, already struggling with a crisis surrounding a Christian woman acquitted of blasphemy charges after eight years on death row, now has to deal with "fake" images on social media purporting to show her outside the country. The deceptive images have prompted death threats to a lawmaker shown in one photograph, and are likely intended to whip up radical religious fervor over Aasia Bibi's case. It's unclear who is behind the circulation of the images. Radical Islamists have held mass protests and demanded that she be publicly executed. They've also filed a petition to repeal her Supreme Court acquittal. The government says Bibi remains in Pakistan, at a secret location for her own protection, until the review process is finished. Prime Minister Imran Khan has warned hard-line groups against using her plight to further their political aims with street protests.

Suicide bomber in Kabul targets anti-Taliban rally, kills 4

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—A suicide bomber struck near an anti-Taliban rally in Kabul on Monday, killing at least four people, officials said, as a lawmaker reported that insurgents killed at least 20 Afghan policemen over the past 24 hours in eastern Ghazni province. According to Basir Mujahid, spokesman for the Kabul police chief, the bomber was on foot and detonated his vest full of explosive after he was spotted by police. Hours later, the Islamic State group claimed responsibility for the attack, which took place about 500 meters (yards) from where hundreds of minority Shiites had gathered to denounce the latest Taliban attacks in Ghazni districts of Jaghuri and Malistan. Wahid Mujroh, spokesman for the Health Ministry, said so far at least four were confirmed dead while 22 people were wounded. The casualties were taken to hospitals, he added. In a statement posted on its media arm, the Aamaq news agency, IS said it targeted a gathering of Shiites. Both the Taliban, who now control nearly half of Afghanistan and stage near-daily attacks on Afghan forces, and the Islamic State group's affiliate in the region have been behind many recent Kabul attacks and bombings.

Southeast Asian summit puts focus on trade tensions, trends

A journalist walks past ASEAN member country flags at the Suntec Convention Centre during the 33rd ASEAN summit in Singapore, Monday, Nov. 12, 2018. AP

SINGAPORE (AP)—The potential damage to global trade brought on by President Donald Trump's tariffs battle with Beijing is looming as leaders of Southeast Asian nations, China, the U.S. and other regional economies meet in Singapore this week.

Countries across the region, many of which have relied heavily on trade to grow their economies, are responding with strong talk about free trade.

It's unclear if this week's summit meetings of the 10-nation Association of Southeast Asian Nations will yield progress on a new trade pact that would commit member countries and others in the Asian-Pacific region to opening markets further.

Participants say India, for one, is balking at opening its markets wider to imports from China under the accord, dubbed the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership, or RCEP.

Expectations are modest. Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison said Tuesday in a statement that he would be joining leaders in Singapore to just "review progress" toward an agreement.

But the momentum is in the direction of more, not less, open trade.

"Against the backdrop of rising anti-globalization sentiments and trade tensions, ASEAN will need to continue to stay open and connected and leverage our collective strength to navigate disruptive trends and anchor our relevance to the global economy," Singapore's minister for trade and industry, Chan Chun Sing, told fellow economic ministers Monday.

The ministers approved statements on facilitating more open trade, cooperation on developing renewable energy, and e-commerce.

He noted that as a region of 630 million people, ASEAN is destined to become the world's fourth biggest economy by 2030, after the U.S., China and the European Union.

Speaking at a business conference on the sidelines of the ASEAN summit, Chinese Premier Li Keqiang compared "rising unilateralism and protectionism," uncertainties and other destabilizing factors to harmful contaminants in an ocean.

"No country can effectively deal with these challenges on its own," he said.

As discussions over the RCEP trade pact drag on, another, rival accord, the dozen-nation Trans-Pacific Partnership, has been making headway despite Trump withdrawing the U.S. from the Pacific Rim free trade initiative three days after he took office.

The remaining 11 countries are preparing to inaugurate the revised trade deal, the Comprehensive and Progressive Trans-Pacific Partnership, following Australia's ratification earlier this month. The deal is due to take effect on Dec. 30.

Several other economies are preparing to try to join the pan-Pacific accord, including the Philippines and South Korea.

Japanese media reported that Taiwan's representative to the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum, former chairman of Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co. Morris Chang, plans to ask Japan to back the island's request to also become a member during a meeting at the grouping's annual summit in Papua New Guinea.

Pence, Abe discuss trade, NKorea ahead of regional summits

TOKYO (AP)—U.S. Vice President Mike Pence met Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe on Tuesday to discuss bilateral trade and to touch base on their policies on North Korea as the two sides tried to showcase alliance ahead of key regional summits this week.

Pence told Abe as their talks started that he planned to follow up on bilateral free trade talks that Abe and President Donald Trump agreed in September. The trade talks are expected to begin early next year.

Japan has faced demands that it reduce its trade surplus with the U.S. and is also concerned about the impact of Trump's trade war with China.

Pence and Abe gave reassurances of their cooperation on North Korea's denuclearization.

Pence will leave later Tuesday to attend a meeting of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations in Singapore and an Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation summit in Papua New Guinea on behalf of President Donald Trump.

He said they would also talk about "advancing the goal of the de-nuclearization of the Korean Peninsula" and that the United States supports Japan's commitment to free and open Indo-Pacific.

The two sides were also expected to discuss China's growing regional influence, Japanese officials said.

Pence said in a recent opinion piece in The Washington Post that America will soon begin negotiations for "a historic trade agreement with Japan."

Trump's administration has made trade agreements with South Korea, Mexico and Canada. Pence said in the article that the new trade deals "will put American jobs and American workers first."

Pence also said the U.S. will continue to put diplomatic and economic pressure on North Korea and urged all Indo-Pacific nations to keep the pressure campaign and sanctions in place until the complete denuclearization of North Korea is achieved.

World

Israel, Hamas trade heavy fire after deadly incursion

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip (AP)—Palestinian militants bombarded Israel with dozens of rockets and mortar shells Monday, while Israeli warplanes struck targets throughout the Gaza Strip in what appeared to be the most intense exchange of fire since a 2014 war.

Palestinian officials said at least three people, including two militants, were killed by Israeli fire and nine were wounded, and an Israeli airstrike destroyed the ruling Hamas group's TV station. In Israel, the national rescue service said at least 20 people were wounded, including a 19-year-old soldier and a 60-year-old woman who were in critical condition.

Early Tuesday, Israeli media reported that a man was found dead under the rubble of a building in the southern coastal city of Ashkelon hit by Gaza rockets.

Gaza's health ministry, meanwhile, said a 22-year-old Palestinian who was wounded in an earlier airstrike died, putting the Palestinian death toll since the current flare-up started late Sunday to 11, the majority of them militants.

The fighting cast doubt over recent understandings brokered by Egypt and U.N. officials to reduce tensions. Just a day earlier, Israel's prime minister had defended those understandings, saying he was doing everything possible to avoid another war.

The United Nations said it was working with Egypt to broker a halt in the violence. "Rockets must STOP, restraint must be shown by all!" the U.N. Mideast envoy's office tweeted.

U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, meanwhile, urged Israel and the Palestinians "to exercise maximum restraint," according to a statement.

The rocket fire was triggered by a botched Israeli military raid in Gaza on Sunday. Undercover troops, apparently on a reconnaissance mission, were discovered inside Gaza on Sunday, setting off a battle that left seven militants, including a Hamas commander, and an Israeli military officer dead.

Around sundown Monday, militants launched some 100 rockets in less than an hour, the most intense barrage since the 50-day war four years ago. The outgoing rockets, which continued into the evening, lit up the skies of Gaza and set off air raid sirens throughout southern Israel.

By early Tuesday, at least 300 rockets had been launched from Gaza, the Israeli military said, adding that up to 70 of them were intercepted by the anti-missile defense system Iron Dome.

The military said warplanes, helicopters and tanks had struck over 70 militant targets, including military compounds, observation posts and weapons facilities. It also said it targeted a squad that was launching rockets.

The airstrikes and rocket barrages resumed at dawn after nearly two hours of calm.

Lt. Col. Jonathan Conricus, a military spokesman, said the army had sent additional infantry troops, rocket defense systems and intelligence units to the Gaza frontier.

"We continue to strike and retaliate against the military targets belonging to terrorist organizations in Gaza, and as for our intentions we will enhance these efforts as needed," he told reporters.

Late Monday, an airstrike destroyed the Gaza City headquarters of Hamas' Al Aqsa TV station. Israel had fired warning shots ahead of the airstrike, prompting the station to halt programming and replace it with a logo. Minutes later, the airstrike flattened the three-story building and the station went black.

Israeli firefighters work at the scene where a rocket fired from the Gaza Strip hit in Sderot, Israel, Monday, Nov. 12, 2018. AP

EU, UK inch closer to a deal as Brexit hangs in the balance

BRUSSELS (AP)—Britain and the European Union appeared to be inching toward agreement on Brexit on Monday, but British Prime Minister Theresa May faced intensifying pressure from her divided Conservative government that could yet scuttle a deal.

Britain leaves the EU on March 29—the first country ever to do so—but a deal must be sealed in the coming weeks to leave enough time for the U.K. and European Parliaments to sign off. May faces increasing domestic pressure over her proposals for an agreement following the resignation of another government minister last week.

The British leader had been hoping to present a draft deal to her Cabinet this week. But no Brexit breakthrough was announced Monday after talks between European affairs ministers. The two sides are locked in technical negotiations to try to bridge the final gaps in a move laden with heavy political and economic consequences.

May said talks were in their "endgame" but that negotiating a divorce agreement after more than four decades of British EU membership was "immensely difficult."

May told an audience at the Lord Mayor's Banquet in London that "we are working extremely hard, through the night, to make progress on the remaining issues in the Withdrawal Agreement, which are significant.

"Both sides want to reach an agreement," May said, though she added she wouldn't sign up to "agreement at any cost."

The main obstacle to a deal is how to keep goods flowing smoothly across the border between EU country Ireland and Northern Ireland in the U.K.

Both sides have committed to avoid a hard border with costly and time-consuming checks that would hamper business. Any new customs posts on the border could also re-ignite lingering sectarian tensions. But Britain and the EU haven't agreed on how to achieve that goal.

"Clearly this is a very important week for Brexit negotiations," Irish Foreign Minister Simon Coveney told reporters after the meeting in Brussels. "The two negotiating teams have really intensified their engagement ... There is still clearly work to do."

And Martin Callanan, a minister in Britain's Brexit department, said all involved were "straining every sinew to make sure that we get a deal but we have to get a deal that is right for the U.K., right for the EU and one that would be acceptable to the U.K. Parliament."

EU Brexit negotiator Michel Barnier didn't speak to reporters Monday and a planned news conference with him was canceled.

Instead, EU headquarters issued a short statement saying that Barnier explained to the ministers that "intense negotiating efforts continue, but an agreement has not been reached yet."

Dutch Foreign Minister Stef Blok said the two sides "are getting closer to each other."

"But in negotiations there is only a deal if there is full agreement," Blok said. "There is only a 100-percent deal. There is not a 90-percent deal or a 95-percent deal."

Earlier, France's EU affairs minister, Nathalie Loiseau, stepped up pressure on May. "The ball is in the British court. It is a question of a British political decision," she said.

In Mexico caravan, LGBTQ migrants stick together for safety

MATIAS ROMERO, Mexico (AP)—Dozens of transgender women and gay men in the caravan moving through Mexico with hopes of seeking asylum in the United States have banded together for protection — not from the uncertainty of a journey fraught with danger from the gangs who prey on migrants but from their fellow travelers.

Fleeing violence and discrimination back home because of their gender identity or sexual orientation, these LGBTQ migrants have found the journey north to be just as threatening amid catcalls and even physical abuse.

"Sweet little thing!" ''Baby, where you going?" ''How much do you charge?" These all-too-familiar jeers are spewed at them as they make their way with the caravan of several thousand.

Loly Mendez, a 28-year-old who began transitioning to a woman in her native El Salvador, knows all too well the dangers her fellow transgender migrants faced back home: Her best friend, also a transgender woman, was murdered for doing the same.

Then Loly herself began getting threats — "that if my breasts were going to grow, they would cut them off," she said. They were always anonymously delivered, which only made her more fearful and finally drove her to flee.

"In my country there is violence, a lack of work and opportunities," said Loly, who like many of the transgender women in the group preferred using only her first name. "In the caravan there is also violence — against the LGBTQ community."

Loly linked up with the caravan in Tapachula, in southern Mexico, and hopes to work in the United States and save up to start a beauty products company — perhaps in Los Angeles or New York. It's something she has planned for a long time, all the way down to the business' logo, but she's never had the money.

"I am going to a country where I know I will achieve my dreams," Loly said, hopefully.

Reports are common in much of Central America of LGBTQ people being murdered, assaulted and discriminated against, due to their gender identity or sexual orientation.

But getting U.S. asylum is difficult even with proof someone has been the victim of persecution for being transgender, said Lynly Egyes, director of litigation at the Transgender Law Center in Oakland, California.

It often takes days or weeks for transgender immigrants to get a hearing before an asylum officer. If they are allowed to move forward in the process, many are traumatized and struggle to tell their story, Egyes said. They are also much less likely to be granted asylum without a lawyer.

"It is a horrifying process, and not everybody makes it through," she said.

Good Housekeeping

On Gardening: Yuletide camellia the landscape's Christmas plant

TNS
In Columbus GA Yuletide camellias have been used in mixed containers at fine shopping or lifestyle centers.

TNS
Yuletide camellia produces an uncountable number of flowers.

TNS
Yuletide camellia's blossoms bring in late season pollinators.

By NORMAN WINTER
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

It is hard for The Garden Guy to imagine a more perfect Christmas plant for the landscape than Yuletide camellia. When you think about the colors of Christmas, red, green and gold are front and center and Yuletide puts them all on display.

The green is most obvious and that is the deep evergreen foliage that would make you want the plant for the bones or structure of your home landscape even if it never bloomed. You may be surprised to know they can eventually get 6- to- 8 feet tall and wide.

The red blooms that are approximately three inches wide are the perfect shade for Christmas. They are produced so abundantly it would be hard to count them all. They start in late October and crescendo into a spectacle by Christmas.

Bright golden stamens are produced in the center of the flowers in such quantities that they give a dazzling highly ornamental look to the plant. You will quickly notice that these blossoms seem to be nature's gift to late season pollinators, bees and a variety of butterflies.

Botanically speaking Yuletide has forever been considered a Camellia sasanqua and 90 percent of the industry sells it that way. It will always be so to The Garden Guy. In reality, it was a chance seedling of Hiryu, a Camellia vernalis hybrid.

I'll do what I usually do and avoid the taxonomic argument like the plague and simply tell you that if you live in zones 7-9, this is a must-have-plant. Indoors you must have poinsettias, outdoors it is Yuletide camellia.

Yuletide is recommended for full to part sun. Fertile, organic-rich, acidic soil is best. These were the first shrubs planted in my new landscape and I can tell you they can thrive in heavier soil conditions but good drainage is paramount.

When planting, make your holes 3-times the width of the pot and plant with the top of the rootball 1-to-2 inches above the soil surface. Don't count on rain, water, and apply a good layer of mulch. Fall is a terrific time to plant and your local nursery typically has a great selection of camellias this time of the year.

You will love the pyramidal habit these camellias have in their early years before getting somewhat broader. Though they will eventually reach 6-feet plus they are nevertheless considered compact.

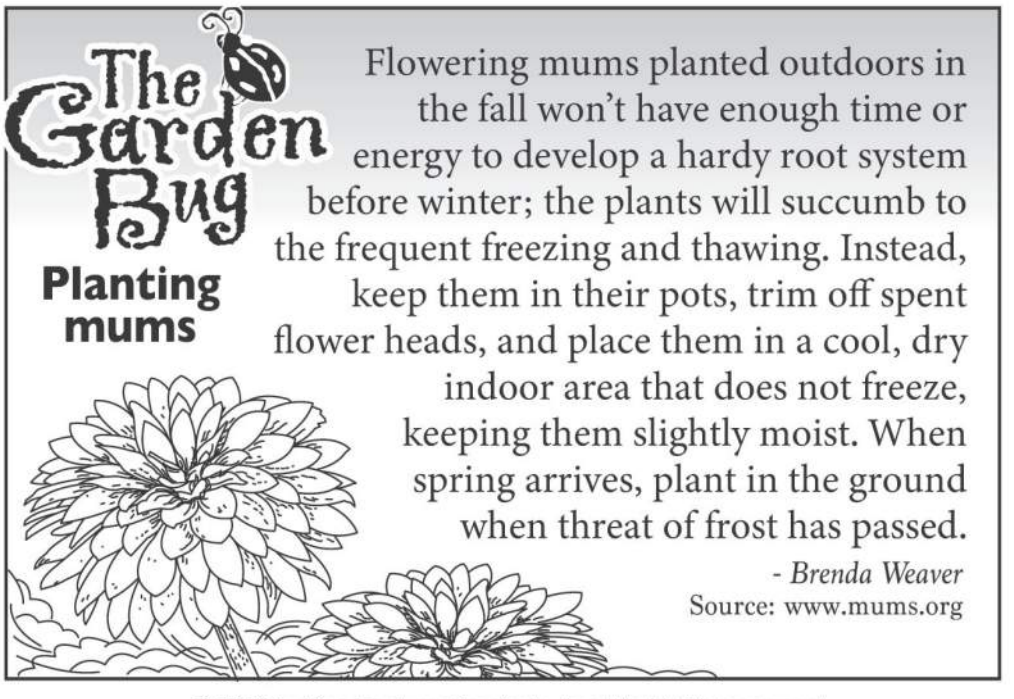
In Columbus Ga., they have been used in mixed containers at the finest shopping or lifestyle centers welcoming all who come to shop or eat at the restaurants.

In the landscape, they scream to be grown with hollies like Christmas Jewel a champion in red berry production, or Robin both of which exhibit their own Christmas tree shape. By all means, add some late blooming Encore azaleas like Autumn Bravo or the shorter Autumn Ruby.

See where The Garden Guy is headed, a landscape peaking in color for your family during the holiday season. But there are a couple of more shrubs that I think would tie it all together and those are conifers. There is just something about the texture of conifers.

A golden conifer like the 10- to- 12-foot Ever Goldy would echo the color of the bright golden stamens of the Yuletide and standout in dramatic fashion with the dark green foliage of its companions. Lastly, consider sweeps or drifts of Yewtopia plum yews reaching 3-feet-tall and adding a fine texture with their short green needles.

Yuletide camellia is one of the most beloved shrubs of all time and perfect for the beginning of your 'Christmas Landscape.' Now is the time to shop.


The Garden Bug
Planting mums
Flowering mums planted outdoors in the fall won't have enough time or energy to develop a hardy root system before winter; the plants will succumb to the frequent freezing and thawing. Instead, keep them in their pots, trim off spent flower heads, and place them in a cool, dry indoor area that does not freeze, keeping them slightly moist. When spring arrives, plant in the ground when threat of frost has passed.
- Brenda Weaver
Source: www.mums.org

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Life & Style

A universe of flawed heroes: Stan Lee was ahead of his time

By TED ANTHONY
AP NATIONAL WRITER

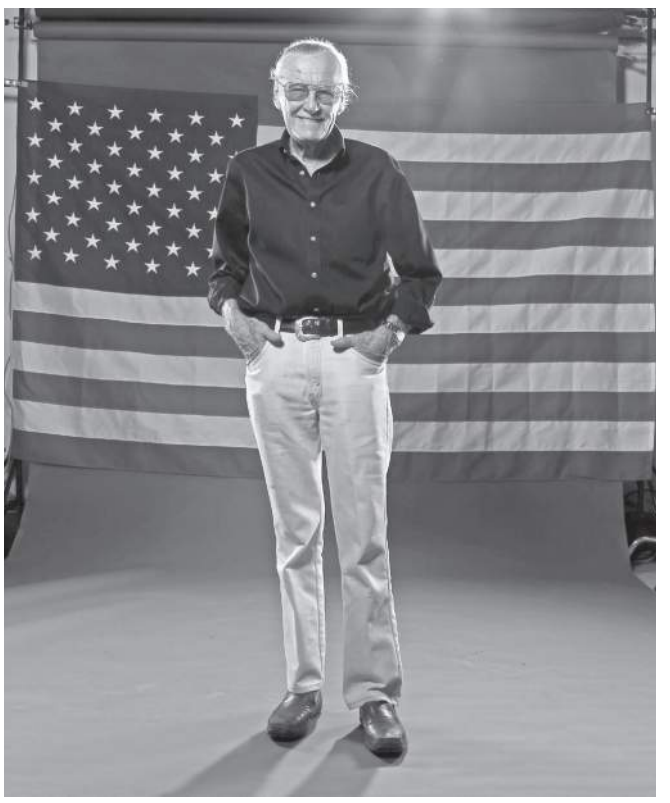
It became easy, in recent years, to dismiss him as the wisecracking grandpa of the American comic book, a past-his-prime gimmick who cameoed alongside Earth's angstiest superheroes in the high-grossing Marvel blockbusters of the past decade.

But Stan Lee, who died Monday, was far more than that. It's no stretch to say that he helped redraw the world of American fiction. And he certainly made sure everyone knew it.

From the ashes of pulp magazines and the radioactive raw material of postwar uncertainty about science and power, he summoned — not singlehandedly, but certainly without parallel or peer — a textured, self-sustaining universe of imperfect heroes.

While Updike and Cheever were doing it in literature, while Kubrick and Lumet and Penn were doing it at the movies, the father of Marvel presented comic-book America — which meant, at the time, mostly adolescent boys — with a pantheon of deeply flawed protagonists who, despite their presence in so many tales to astonish, were in many ways just like you and me.

These outcasts and misfits rose to the alarm clock's buzzing and slogged to work each morning to get the job done, not in a fanciful Metropolis or Gotham but on the actual streets of New York City and in the imperfect America beyond it. For them, the struggle was the thing — no matter whether the task was saving the world, paying the rent or trying to make ends meet as a freelance photographer or a blind lawyer or an itinerant stunt motorcyclist.



AP
In this July 21, 2011, file photo, Stan Lee poses for a portrait at the LMT Music Lodge during Comic Con in San Diego.

Unlike DC Comics' iconic heroes, many of whom had been destined for greatness as the last sons of doomed planets, Amazon royalty or rightful kings of the sea, the likes of Spider-Man, the Fantastic Four, Iron Man, the Ghost Rider and the Incredible Hulk composed a catalog of human frailties — schmoes who inadvertently, or negligently, wandered into the traffic of destiny.

Some moneyed, some working-class, all neurotic, they had powers thrust upon them by misfortune or questionable choices. Their abilities were just as often bane as boon. And sometimes it was hard to tell the heroes and the villains apart. Sort of like real life.

This was in no small measure due to Lee, who as Marvel's editor-in-chief wrote many of the books himself during comics' "Silver Age" years of the early 1960s. With seemingly boundless energy and a staggering variety of voices, he breathed personality, ambiguity and a common narrative into soon-to-be-beloved characters.

"One of the things we try to demonstrate in our yarns is that nobody is all good, or all bad," Lee wrote in a column for Marvel's March 1969 issues. "Even a shoddy super-villain can have a redeeming trait, just as any howlin' hero might have his nutty hang-ups."

Celebrities offer thanks, condolences

"Sad, sad day. Rest In Power, Uncle Stan. You have made the world a better place through the power of modern mythology and your love of this messy business of being human..." **The "Hulk" actor Mark Ruffalo, via Twitter.**

"Thank you, Stan, for making me not only the boy I was but also the man I am today. You had great power and you always used it responsibly, fostering billions of dreamers who all know your name—a name written in the stars for all time. You were not just the literary titan of comic books, you were our modern day Mark Twain. I will miss you all my days, my friend and hero. Excelsior forevermore."—Filmmaker, comic book devotee and Stan Lee friend **Kevin Smith, via Instagram.**

"Original and genius are two very overused words in the world today, but Stan was both. Add irrepressible and irreplaceable, and you begin to describe the man. We have all lost a true superhero. We will greatly miss our friendly neighborhood Stan Lee."—**Sony Pictures' Motion Picture Group chairman Tom Rothman, in a statement.**

"I owe it all to you... Rest In Peace Stan... #MCU #Excelsior #legend #rip #stanlee #TeamStark"—"Iron Man" **actor Robert Downey Jr., via Instagram.**

"We've lost a creative genius. Stan Lee was a pioneering force in the superhero universe. I'm proud to have been a small part of his legacy and... to have helped bring one of his characters to life. #StanLee #Wolverine"—**"Wolverine" actor Hugh Jackman, via Twitter.**

"There will never be another Stan Lee. For decades he provided both young and old with adventure, escape, comfort, confidence, inspiration, strength, friendship and joy. He exuded love and kindness and will leave an indelible mark on so, so, so many lives. Excelsior!!"—**"Captain America" actor Chris Evans, via Twitter.**

"RIP Stan. Thanks for everything."—**"Deadpool" actor Ryan Reynolds, via Twitter.**

"Stan Lee's imagination helped spawn a universe of characters that inspired both kids and adults around the world for generations. He has become the driver of an incredible lasting legacy for our modern pop culture mythology."—**Marvel cinematic universe directors and brothers Anthony and Joe Russo, in a statement.**

"Onward and upward to greater glory! Excelsior! Good man, Excelsior!"—**"Black Panther" actress Angela Bassett, via Twitter.**

"Thank you Stan Lee for making people who feel different realize they are special."—**Seth Rogan, via Twitter.**

"I was first interviewed for Stan Lee's obituary about 20 years ago. I was happy he defied the reaper and carried on. With Stan gone, an era really does come to an end. He was the happy huckster that comics needed. And he really did alliterate like that when you talked to him."—**Neil Gaiman, via Twitter.**

"No one has had more of an impact on my career and everything we do at Marvel Studios than Stan Lee. Stan leaves an extraordinary legacy that will outlive us all. Our thoughts are with his daughter, his family, and his millions of fans."—**Marvel Studios boss Kevin Feige, via Twitter.**

"Thank you Stan Lee. For your service in protecting our freedom and for your creativity and imagination! You were and will always be a SUPER HERO!"—**Jamie Lee Curtis, via Twitter.**

"To Stan Lee: Thank you for making my childhood so much more exciting with your astonishing superhero characters. Thank you for inspiring me to think and dream big. Thank you for the Hulk, Thor, Fantastic Four and many others. You will be sadly missed. RIP."—**Gene Simmons, via Twitter.**

"I was a happy little boy lost in the sanctuary of my Spider-Man comic books, collecting 'em, savoring each one, the piles of comics stacked high next to my bed. Thank you Stan Lee, what a creative whirlwind, wow. Rest In Peace in the divine. What an honor it was to help bring one of your characters to life with my scratchy little voice."—**Flea of the Red Hot Chili Peppers,** who voiced Roller Man in "Stan Lee's Mighty 7," via Instagram.

Grandmother is still waiting for thank-yous from teens

DEAR ABBY: It seems the children I raised and taught to write thank-you notes somehow failed to teach their children the importance of being grateful receivers. My two teenage grandchildren have never thanked me for a birthday or Christmas gift. I gave one of them a set of personalized notepaper, but it didn't spur any action.

Birthdays have come and gone this year, but Christmas is on the way. I'm wondering what I can do to reach these young people in a meaningful manner. I'm older now and don't know how much longer I'll be around to influence them. I recall you had a booklet that addresses writing thank-you notes, among other subjects. Do you still have it available?

LOVING GRAN IN OKLAHOMA

DEAR LOVING GRAN: Yes, my "How to Write Letters" booklet is still available. And it's because the topic of thank-you notes (or the lack of them) is one of the most common complaints I get from readers. If someone sends a gift or a check and it isn't acknowledged, the message the giver receives is that it wasn't appreciated, which is insulting and hurtful.

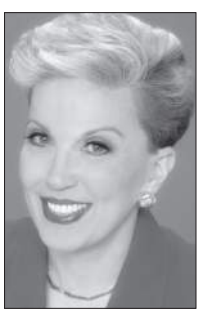
One of the main reasons people don't send thank-you notes is they don't know what to say, or they are afraid they will say the wrong thing. They think the note has to be long and flowery when, in fact, short and to the point is more effective.

That's the reason "How to Write Letters" was written. It contains samples of thank-you letters for birthday gifts, shower gifts, wedding gifts, as well as those that arrive around holiday time. It also includes letters of congratulations and ones that are especially difficult to write -- including letters of condolence for the loss of a parent, a spouse or a child. It can be ordered by sending your name, mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to Dear Abby Letters Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.) It can be used to tailor your own messages. With the holiday season approaching and people sending gifts and messages through the end of the year, this is the perfect time to be able to reply with a handwritten letter, note or well-written email.

Because composition of letters and notes is not always effectively taught in the schools, my booklet can provide an easy way for parents to teach their children proper etiquette—a valuable lesson that will last them a lifetime.

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

DEAR ABBY: Most of my friends are guys, and people tend to assume that I have slept with them or that we have dated, but it's not true. How do I answer when someone asks, "Is this your boyfriend?" or, "Have you guys dated?" without coming off as offended when I answer?

NOT THE CASE

DEAR NOT THE CASE: All you have to do is smile and say, "We're not involved romantically. We're friends."

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

ADAM! YOUR LEAF-MULCHING JET ENGINE IS HERE!
OH, WOW! YES!
THIS IS GONNA BE PERFECT!
PERFECTLY STUPID?
DA VINCI IS SO LUCKY SNARK WASN'T AROUND IN HIS DAY.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Prompt
4 Campus VIP
8 Tibetan monk
12 Donkey
13 — Major
14 Done with
15 Irish actor Stephen
16 Gossip source
18 "Treasure" singer Mars
20 Pub pint
21 Golf stroke
24 News bulletin
28 Partridge's place
32 Gym site, for short
33 Stately tree
34 Hayek of "Frida"
36 Wrestling surface
37 Cravats
39 Coveted assignments
41 Annual visitor
43 On the briny
44 — Dhabi
46 Hose material
50 Orchard starter Johnny
55 World Cup cheer
56 Verbal
57 — gin fizz
58 Swing band instrument
59 Camera part
60 Peel
61 Potent stick

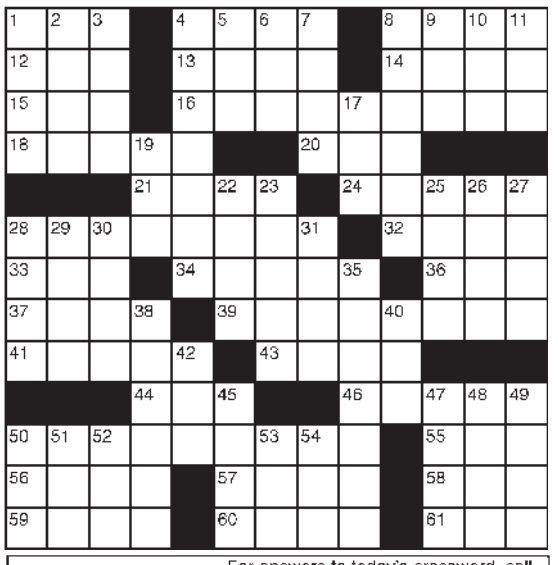
DOWN

1 Sugar or starch, for short
2 Addict
3 Jacob's twin
4 Diamond shelters
5 Mess up
6 Simile center
7 Wine valley
8 Attractive
9 Bird (Pref.)
10 Gents
11 Exist
17 Sprite
19 "Fresh Air" airer
22 Snare
23 "I cannot — lie"
25 Arsenal supply
26 Wound cover
27 Toppers
28 Favorites
29 Lamb alias
30 "So be it"
31 Flightless birds
35 Revised
38 Stable enclosures
40 Comic Leno
42 Honest politician
45 Cold War initials
47 Missing
48 "The Good Earth" heroine
49 On deck
50 MSN rival
51 Opposite of "post-"
52 Skillet
53 Yalie
54 A billion years

Solution time: 23 mins.

T	E	E	N		T	R	I	B		T	E	D
A	R	T	C		C	T	T	U		U	K	C
T	R	A	C	K	M	E	E	T		N	E	W
			T	I	P	S		T	O	A	D	Y
S	A	T	A	N			W	O	R	M		
H	O	U	R		P	R	I	N	C	E	S	S
A	N	G		F	R	A	I	S		L	E	I
D	E	M	C	L	I	S	H		S	T	A	Y
			C	H	U	M			A	I	S	L	E
I	F	G	C	S		M	I	I	D			
O	A	R		T	R	A	V	E	L	M	U	G
O	R	A		E	I	R	E		E	A	S	Y
N	N	W		H	O	S	Y		S	I	E	M

Yesterday's answer 11-14



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Travis Barker, 43; Josh Duhamel, 46; Patrick Warburton, 54; Harland Williams, 56.

Happy Birthday: You'll have a lot to think about this year. The changes that come your way will not turn out as expected. Practice moderation and avoid getting involved in ventures that you cannot afford emotionally, physically or financially. Question any offer that requires you to trust someone else to handle your personal or professional affairs. Your numbers are 8, 14, 22, 28, 31, 33, 42.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19):* Look over documents carefully before you sign. Dealing with institutions will put you in a vulnerable position if you don't have expert advice. Evaluate every aspect of whatever situation you face before you make a commitment. Personal changes are apparent. ✪✪✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20):* Your past experience will pay off when it comes to your work and your relationship with your peers. Taking charge and making sure that things get done on time will result in an unexpected opportunity or unusual proposition. ✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20):* An emotional situation will have an impact on your relationship with someone. Take the time to listen to what's being said and you'll be able to bring about the changes that will enhance your relationship and enrich your life. ✪✪✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22):* Don't feel you have to conform to the way other people do things. Use your imagination to come up with an idea that will take others by surprise and help you stand out from your peers. ✪✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22):* If you can dream it, you can become it. Change begins within and can turn your day into an exciting new start. Trust your instincts and believe in your ability to conquer your fears and achieve your goals. Romance is highlighted. ✪✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* Don't let what other people do bother you. If someone overreacts, give them space. Concentrate on the things you can accomplish. Get together with people who share common interests. Gathering information will help you improve your position. ✪✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* Expand your mind; you'll learn something that will help you get ahead. Short trips will lead to engaging conversations with people who can motivate you to try something new. A physical activity will lead to self-improvement. Romance is encouraged. ✪✪✪✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* Emotions will take over if you get into a conversation with someone regarding your responsibilities. Look for an innovative way to deal with anyone questioning your abilities or what you are doing. Someone you thought you could trust will let you down. ✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* Get together with old friends or relatives and share memories. You'll discover something about your past that will change your point of view. An affectionate gesture will surprise you. Be honest about the way you feel. ✪✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* Accept changes. Don't give someone the wrong impression. Be willing to look at new data, concepts and suggestions and figure out a way to incorporate what you are offered into your plans. Don't let personal issues interfere with work. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* Put your heart into whatever you are working toward; an opportunity will come your way. A physical change will encourage better health, greater confidence and compliments. Romance will enrich your life and lead to positive lifestyle changes. ✪✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20):* Emotional manipulation will get you into trouble. Stick to the truth and question any information you are given that appears to be incomplete or unlikely. Don't share information that may be used against you or to take advantage of you. Protect passwords. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are inventive, outgoing and colorful. You are determined and assertive.

To submit astrological questions to the "Dear Eugenia" column, visit Eugenialast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

			8					
			6		3			
		7				2		
		9		5		7		
	1	2				4	5	
3	5	4		2		9	8	1
		8				3		
	2	1	3		8	6	9	
5	3			4			7	2

Difficulty Level ★★★ 11/14

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Last Friday's Answer

2	3	5	8	9	6	7	1	4
8	9	6	4	7	1	5	2	3
7	1	4	5	2	3	8	9	6
3	2	7	6	1	9	4	8	5
9	6	8	2	5	4	3	7	1
5	4	1	7	3	8	2	6	9
4	7	2	1	6	5	9	3	8
1	5	3	9	8	2	6	4	7
6	8	9	3	4	7	1	5	2

Difficulty Level ★★

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

PACIFIC ISLANDS — Solution: 11 letters

U	A	H	I	I	N	A	C	U	N	A	M	A	M	M
R	P	P	M	R	L	I	S	I	A	N	S	K	I	A
U	O	O	O	A	A	I	T	E	H	E	M	H	D	N
A	V	T	L	P	N	A	Ⓔ	K	E	H	I	A	W	G
N	A	E	U	U	I	U	Ⓚ	L	A	I	I	E	A	A
L	O	T	L	M	P	N	Ⓐ	P	S	N	I	R	Y	R
L	M	S	N	I	A	A	Ⓦ	E	T	U	E	O	F	E
A	A	K	R	J	T	V	G	B	E	E	N	O	I	V
H	J	Y	A	E	A	I	O	N	R	V	O	M	J	A
S	U	N	S	D	D	R	V	I	O	A	U	A	I	E
R	R	A	E	A	A	N	V	I	U	T	T	K	I	T
A	O	D	S	B	N	V	E	I	A	A	O	U	A	A
M	O	L	O	K	A	I	U	H	S	U	M	R	W	I
M	O	R	U	R	O	A	O	M	A	S	A	A	A	A
O	A	H	U	H	S	N	O	H	C	O	O	K	H	R

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Bora Bora, Cook, Dany, Easter, Fiji, Hawaii, Henderson, Honshu, Jarvis, Kadavu, Kauai, Laysan, Lisianski, Majuro, Makura, Mamanuca, Mangareva, Manuae, Marshall, Maui, Mehetia, Midway, Molokai, Moorea, Moruroa, MotuOne, Nauru, Niihau, Oahu, Raiatea, Rarotonga, Rota, Rotuma, Samoa, Taveuni, Tupai, Upolu, Vanua, VitiLevu, Waiheke, Wake

Yesterday's Answer: Partially

Treasuries 13 through 33 can be purchased online at www.WonderWordBooks.com.

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ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	**$15**	**$30**
• 5-Liner	**$24**	**$45**

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Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

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Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

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Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

WAREHOUSE FOR RENT

San Vicente	**2,500 sq.ft.** (can be used for barracks)
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Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

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JVA NO.: 19-011

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Closing Date: **Wednesday, November 21, 2018**

IT Administrator

DUTIES: Under the direct supervision of the Chief of Administration or his/her designee. Supervises IT staff to include: prioritizing and assigning work, conducting performance evaluations; ensuring staff is trained; ensuring that employees follow policies and procedures; maintaining a healthy and safe working environment; and, making, hiring termination, and disciplinary recommendations. Manages day-to-day operations to include: reviewing work schedules, reviewing IT task assignments, reviewing software application request; inspecting work sites to assist with office set-up and capturing all data input for monitoring the condition of IT hardware, storage capacity and capabilities, amount of software application use, speed of system performance. Evaluates current technology design and planning materials to assess if there exist possible improvements to address performance constraints, add additional storage capacity to meet capacity concerns, or mirroring of servers for ensuring data capture. Participates in a wide variety of meetings to include department, management and planning meetings. Prepares and conducts technical training sessions for developing power users and to establish security protocols. Serves as primary contact on IT issues, new IT initiatives, and strategic planning activities regarding IT expansion requirements. Provides technical expert advice to management IT projects, new major software updates, roll-outs and new implementation and related scopes of work. Offers advice and assists with planning, research, audits, and any data tracking efforts. Prepares and administers the IT Division budget. Performs other duties of similar nature and level as assigned.

LOCATION : **Information Technology Section SAIPAN**, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY : Starting: $60,000.00 per annum, Exempt (Commensurate with Qualification and Experience.)
POSITION : One (1)
CONTRACT : Two (2) years, subject to renewal

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: Bachelor's Degree in Computer Science or Information Technology Management, or directly related field and 5 years of progressively responsible industry experience, including two years of supervisory experience. Experience in a supervisory position performing comprehensive assessments of systems requirements, capacity needs, coordinating the integration of new applications and other critical long term assessments maybe considered as suitable training. **Knowledge of:** Applicable codes, laws, rules and regulations of governmental utility organizations involving power, water and wastewater. Key areas include: leadership principles, supervisory principles, budgetary principles, principles of asset management and work management applications, principles and procedures of managing in a complex environment; inspection and troubleshooting principles and long-term strategic thinking principles. **Skill in:** Running on regular checks on network and date security, identifying and acting on opportunities to improve and update software and systems; developing and implementing IT policy and best practice guides for the organization; designing training programs and workshops for staff; conducting regular system audits; running and sharing regular operation system reports with senior management; overseeing and determining timeframes for major IT projects including system updates, upgrades, migrations and outages; managing and reporting on allocation of IT budget; providing direction for IT team members; identifying opportunities for team training and skills advancement. Using computer and related applications. Managers should have qualities such as accountability, good with crisis management and ability to prioritize. Communication, interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with co-workers, supervisor, and the general public sufficient to enhance or convey information and to receive work direction. Applicants may be tested and are subject o pre-employment drug testing.

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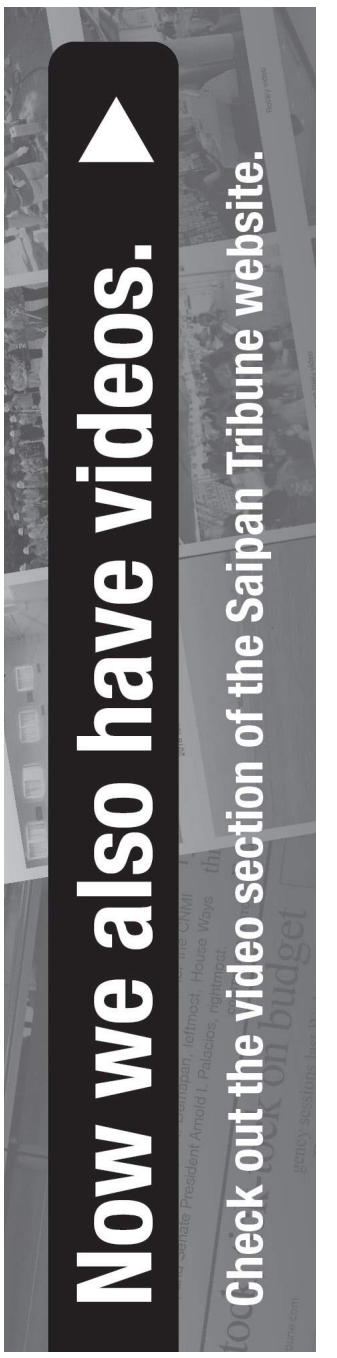

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RIO DE JANEIRO
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Ohtani wins AL Rookie of the Year

NEW YORK (AP)—Two-way star Shohei Ohtani was a singular sensation in voting for AL Rookie of the Year.

A standout on the mound and at the plate for the Los Angeles Angels, Ohtani was an overwhelming pick for American League Rookie of the Year after becoming the first player since Babe Ruth a century ago with 10 homers and four pitching wins in the same season.

Atlanta Braves outfielder Ronald Acuna Jr. was a runaway pick for the NL honor over Washington outfielder Juan Soto in a contest between 20-year-olds.

A 24-year-old right-hander who joined the Angels last winter after five seasons with Japan's Nippon Ham Fighters, Ohtani received 25 first-place votes and four seconds for 137 points from the Baseball Writers' Association of America in balloting announced Monday.

A pair of New York Yankees infielders followed. Miguel Andujar was second with five firsts and 89 points, and Gleyber Torres was next with 25 points.

Ohtani was 4-2 with a 3.31 ERA and 63 strikeouts over 51 2/3 innings in 10 starts, limited by a torn elbow ligament that required surgery on Oct. 1 and likely will prevent him from pitching next year. As a designated hitter, he batted .285 with 22 homers and 61 RBIs and a .925 OPS in 367 plate appearances. He became the first player with 15 homers as a batter and 50 strikeouts as a pitcher in the same season.

Ohtani is the first Japanese player to win the honor since Seattle's Ichiro Suzuki in 2001 and the fourth overall.

Andujar hit .297 with 27 homers and 92 RBIs in 149 games. The 23-year-old third baseman set a Yankees rookie record with 47 doubles, three more than Joe DiMaggio in 1936, and tied the AL rookie mark for doubles set by Boston's Fred Lynn in 1975.

Torres, 21, began the season at Triple-A after missing the second half of 2017 with a torn ligament in his nonthrowing arm. The second baseman made his big league debut April 22 and hit .271 with 24 homers and 77 RBIs.

The 20-year-old Acuna received 27 first-place votes and three seconds for 144 points. Soto got two firsts and 89 points, and Los Angeles Dodgers pitcher Walker Buehler was next with one first and 28 points.

Acuna started the season at Triple-A and made his debut on April 25, the youngest player in the majors then at 20 years, 128 days. He set a Braves record with eight leadoff homers this season and tied a franchise mark by homering in five straight games from Aug. 11-14.

Expectations were high entering the 2018 season for Acuña, who led all rookies with 26 homers and hit .293 with a .917 on-base-plus-slugging percentage.

Said Hall of Famer and Braves icon Chipper Jones of the outfielder at spring training: "He's as good a prospect as I've seen."

After Acuña debuted in the majors, he missed a month of the season with a left knee injury he suffered on May 27. His season caught fire when Braves manager Brian Snitker moved him into the leadoff spot after the All-Star break. He hit .322 with a 1.028 OPS and 46 RBI from the top spot, and slugged eight leadoff home runs— including three consecutive— to set a franchise record.

Acuña's second-half OPS (1.028) was third among players with at least 100 at-bats and is bested only by NL MVP candidate and Milwaukee Brewer Christian Yelich (1.219) and Los Angeles Dodger Justin Turner (1.066).

Defensively, Acuña tied for 13th among outfielders in the NL in defensive runs saved (4). By comparison, Soto tied for 21st (-5)

Acuña's season was historic. He was the first rookie to lead a Braves team in home runs since 1943, when OF Chuck Workman hit 10 of the Boston Braves' 39 home runs. He also became the 10th player in history to have 25 home runs and 15 steals in his rookie season and the first since Mike Trout in 2012.

The Braves unexpected playoff run was sparked by his ascension to the leadoff spot. They faced a half-game deficit at the break and took over the NL East on Aug. 13, capturing their first division crown since 2013.

Soto debuted on May 20 at 19 years, 207 days, although in a quirk the Dominican is credited with a home run from five days before his debut—he went deep on June 18 against the New York Yankees in the completion of the May 15 suspended game. Soto hit .292 with 22 homers, 70 RBIs and a .923 OPS. He was two shy of Tony Conigliaro's big league record for home runs by a teenager.

Buehler, a 23-year-old right-hander, was 8-5 with a 2.62 ERA in 23 starts and one relief appearance.

AP

Los Angeles Angels starting pitcher Shohei Ohtani (17) throws against the Houston Astros during the first inning of a baseball game Sunday, Sep. 2, 2018, in Houston.

Dodgers' Ryu only player to accept $17.9M qualifying offer

NEW YORK (AP)—Los Angeles Dodgers pitcher Hyun-Jin Ryu was the only player to accept among the seven given $17.9 million qualifying offers by their former teams on Nov. 2.

Ryu accepted the offer before Monday's deadline and is considered a signed player. He is just the sixth to accept among the 80 qualifying offers made since the process began in 2012.

A 31-year-old left-hander, Ryu was 7-3 with a 1.97 ERA in 15 starts, sidelined from May 2 to Aug. 15 by a groin injury.

Among those who didn't accept were outfielder Bryce Harper (Washington), closer Craig Kimbrel (Boston), left-handers Patrick Corbin (Arizona) and Dallas Keuchel (Houston), outfielder A.J. Pollock (Arizona) and catcher Yasmani Grandal (Dodgers).

If a player who turned down a qualifying offer signs a major league contract with another club before the June amateur draft, his former club will receive a draft pick as compensation at the end of the first round.

In Houston, starter Dallas Keuchel has declined the one-year qualifying offer the Houston Astros offered him.

Keuchel could still sign with the Astros, but if he signs with another team before next year's draft the Astros will receive a compensation draft pick in the 2019 draft.

Monday was the deadline for players who received qualifying offers to accept or decline them.

Keuchel, the 2015 American League Cy Young winner, was drafted by the Astros in 2009 and has spent his entire career in Houston.

He went 12-11 with a 3.74 ERA in an AL-leading 34 starts last season and is 76-63 with a 3.66 ERA in 192 games in his career.

The 30-year-old left-hander's best season came the year he won the Cy Young when he won a career-high 20 games with a career-low 2.48 ERA in 33 starts.

Djokovic cruises past Isner in first round

LONDON (AP)—The opening matches at the ATP Finals led to a debate over whether conditions at the O2 Arena were trickier than in past years.

Novak Djokovic ended it.

The Wimbledon and U.S. Open champion made an impressive start to his campaign for a sixth title by dismissing John Isner 6-4, 6-3, on Monday.

Roger Federer, who lost on Sunday, and Alexander Zverev described conditions as challenging following their error-strewn opening matches at the season-ending tournament, but Djokovic dropped just six points on his serve and made six unforced errors.

"My results here have been pretty good in the last 10 years, so I can't complain too much," said Djokovic, who has won four titles at the London venue. "It takes a little bit of time really to get yourself adjusted to the surface because the surface is a good surface."

A day after a ceremony to mark ending the season as No. 1, Djokovic underlined his status by nullifying Isner's usually destructive serve.

Isner, who at 33 became the season-ending tournament's oldest debutant since 1972, applied himself admirably but barely avoided being broken more than once in the first set, and was broken twice more in the second set.

"It was amazing," Isner said of the atmosphere. "I wish I could have given them a bit more to cheer for."

The one break Djokovic converted in the first set, at 2-2, was a cross-court forehand return winner which stranded Isner.

Cristiano Ronaldo was in attendance, with Djokovic perhaps spurred on even more by the Juventus forward's presence.

"It's great to have big football star, sports star like him, courtside watching tennis," Djokovic said.

At 3-3, 15-30 in the second set, Isner sent down a second serve at 126 mph (203 kph). Djokovic sent it straight back at his feet and a shocked Isner hit his backhand long to concede two more break points.

A forehand error from Isner confirmed the break, and the end of the contest. The merciless Djokovic held serve before breaking Isner once more with an inch-perfect backhand passing shot on match point.

"That was pretty comprehensive out there," Isner conceded.

Earlier, Zverev came from a break down in both sets to defeat Marin Cilic 7-6 (5), 7-6 (1).

Facing each other in their opening match for a second straight year, Zverev produced the slightly steadier tennis in an attritional contest to extend his record against Cilic to 2-0 at the O2 Arena and 6-1 overall.

Cilic, who made 46 unforced errors, dropped to 1-9 across his four appearances at the tournament.

"The win, that's the most important thing," said Zverev, who failed to advance from the round-robin stage on his debut last year.

Manning's late TD pass leads Giants past 49ers

SANTA CLARA, Calif. (AP)—Eli Manning showed he still has what it takes to lead the kind of game-winning drive that earned him two Super Bowl MVP awards.

Manning capped a 75-yard drive with a 3-yard touchdown pass to Sterling Shepard with 53 seconds left and the New York Giants snapped a five-game losing streak by beating the San Francisco 49ers 27-23 on Monday night.

"It doesn't get old," said Manning, whose 36 game-winning drives are the third most in the NFL since he entered the league in 2004. "It's fun. It's fun playing in those games and having a two-minute drive to win it. Those are the situations you want to be in. You want to have a chance."

The Giants (2-7) have failed to capitalize on those late-game situations this season, losing five games by seven or fewer points as part of a disappointing stretch that has put the 37-year-old Manning's status as starting quarterback in question.

But Manning delivered against the 49ers (2-8) to give New York a much-needed win.

"That's what Eli is really good at, engineering those come-from-behind drives," coach Pat Shurmur said. "That was terrific. He hung in there and made some really good throws and got us into the end zone. That's the sign of a good quarterback."

Manning threw two TD passes to Odell Beckham Jr. and then engineered the late game-winning drive with help from a pair of third-down penalties against Malcolm Smith and Ahkello Witherspoon.

Saquon Barkley then had a 23-yard catch to get the ball into the red zone and Manning connected with Shepard on third down to give the Giants the win.

"I just saw man-to-man coverage," Shepard said. "That's something we've been practicing. I was able to capture the outside edge and Eli put the ball in a perfect place."

Matt Breida ran for 101 yards and scored two touchdowns for the 49ers (2-8), who were unable to win consecutive games under third-string quarterback Nick Mullens. Breida's 23-yard run helped set up a 30-yard field goal by Robbie Gould that gave the Niners a 23-20 lead with 2:46 to play.

But the 49ers allowed the go-ahead score and couldn't pull it out at the end as Mullens' pass from the Giants 21 sailed out of the end zone on the final play.

AP

San Francisco 49ers defensive back K'Waun Williams (24) and defensive tackle Sheldon Day, center, dive for a pass, which fell incomplete, in front of New York Giants center Spencer Pulley, left, during the first half of an NFL football game in Santa Clara, Calif., Monday, Nov. 12, 2018.

"Those are the plays you have to make to finish the game," Mullens said. "That was a moment of truth, and I didn't get the job done. I have to play better in those moments of truth. We all have to play better."

Mullens wasn't nearly as sharp as he was in his NFL debut against the Raiders on Nov. 1 when he joined Hall of Famers Jim Kelly and Fran Tarkenton as the only players with at least 250 yards passing, three touchdown passes and no interceptions in the first career game.

Mullens threw for 250 yards and had an 11-yard TD pass to Breida that made it 20-10 early in the third quarter. But Mullens also threw two interceptions with the first setting up a 10-yard TD pass from Manning to Beckham.

Those two connected again on a 20-yard score in the third quarter as New York rallied from 10 points down to tie the game in the second half.

Meanwhile, Niners receiver Marquise Goodwin was hit in the helmet by Alec Ogletree on a catch late in the third quarter and briefly left the game. On his first play back in to start the fourth quarter, a pass from Mullens deflected off Goodwin's hands for the second interception of the game by B.J. Goodson . Goodwin was slow to get up after that play and went back into the medical tent for observation. Goodwin returned to the game later in the fourth quarter.

Witherspoon got beat on Beckham's second TD catch and immediately threw his hands up in disgust because he didn't get the safety help he expected from Antone Exum. Teammate Richard Sherman and coaches talked to Witherspoon on the sideline to tell him not to show up a teammate.

"Man up. Don't put that on tape," coach Kyle Shanahan said. "We'll deal with that when we come in."

Barkley rans for 67 yards and added 33 receiving to join Eric Dickerson as the only players since the merger to gain at least 100 yards from scrimmage in eight of their first nine career games.

The Giants entered the game converting just 40 percent of their red zone trips into TDs. They missed a golden opportunity for one late in the first half. On a third down from the 3, the 49ers left Beckham unguarded in the slot but Manning stuck with a run play to Barkley that gained only 1 yard. New York settled for a field goal that tied the game at 10.

Former Browns coach Jackson returning to Bengals

CLEVELAND (AP)—Hue Jackson's timeout from coaching didn't last long.

Fired last month after a brutal run with the Browns, Jackson will rejoin Cincinnati's staff under Marvin Lewis, a person familiar with the hiring told The Associated Press on Monday night.

Jackson, who was dismissed by Cleveland on Oct. 29 with one year left on his contract after going 3-36-1 in two-plus seasons, will take an unspecified position with the Bengals, said the person who spoke on condition of anonymity because the team has not announced the move.

It's a homecoming of sorts for Jackson, who served as Cincinnati's offensive coordinator under Lewis in 2014 and 2015 before he was hired by Browns owners Dee and Jimmy Haslam. Jackson also worked with the Bengals as a defensive assistant and wide receivers coach and is extremely tight with Lewis and a favorite of Bengals owner Mike Brown.

And it won't be long before the Browns see him again. Following a bye week, Cleveland visits Cincinnati on Nov. 25. The Browns (3-6-1) will host the Bengals (5-4) on Dec. 23.

This is the second time Lewis has re-hired Jackson, who returned to Cincinnati in 2012 after he was fired as Oakland's coach.

Jackson's hiring came a few hours after Lewis fired defensive coordinator Teryl Austin, a day after an embarrassing 51-14 loss to the New Orleans Saints. The Bengals are allowing a league-high 454.6 yards per game.

Jackson figured to land on his feet at some point following his dismissal in Cleveland, where he was brought back for a third season despite going 1-31 in his first two. However, the team continued to struggle and Jackson had issues with offensive coordinator Todd Haley, who was also let go.

Since his firing, Jackson has done several TV interviews in which he has maintained he should have never given up play-calling duties to Haley.

Bills release turnover-prone QB Peterman

In New York, Nathan Peterman's turnover-over prone days with the Buffalo Bills are over after the second-year player was cut by the team on Monday.

The move was announced as the Bills (3-7) enter their bye week, and not long after coach Sean McDermott backed Peterman earlier in the day.

"I'm still confident in Nate," he said.

McDermott's recent decisions, however, did not appear to match his belief in a player who threw seven interceptions in four appearances this season, and 13 overall in nine career games, including a brief playoff stint last season.

Peterman became the odd man out on a team carrying four quarterbacks, and with rookie Josh Allen set to reclaim his starting job after missing four games with a sprained right throwing elbow.

The Bills are off until they host Jacksonville on Nov. 25.

Peterman was passed on the depth chart by Matt Barkley, who took over the starting job in a 41-10 win over the New York Jets on Sunday. McDermott opted to start Barkley, despite having just signed with Buffalo on Oct. 30, and a week after Peterman—starting in place of injured veteran backup Derek Anderson (concussion)—threw three interceptions in a 41-9 loss to Chicago.

Buffalo considered Peterman to be a project in selecting him with a fifth-round pick in the 2017 draft out of Pittsburgh. He spent his final two seasons at Pitt after transferring from Tennessee.

This year, the 24-year-old went from winning a three-way offseason quarterback competition, which also included AJ McCarron, to being off the team entirely.

His starting tenure lasted two series into the third quarter, after which he was pulled in favor of Allen in a season-opening 47-3 loss at Baltimore.

Things unraveled further when Peterman took over after Allen was hurt in the third quarter of a 20-13 loss at Houston on Oct. 14. After hitting Zay Jones for a go-ahead touchdown, Peterman closed the game by throwing two interceptions.

Over $100K raised for wildfire victims

Niners GM John Lynch welcomed the high school football team from Paradise, a town destroyed by the wildfires in Butte County, about 175 miles north. Players and cheerleaders from the school were on the field for the national anthem. The Niners raised more than $100,000 to support relief and recovery efforts.

The air quality for the game was at an unhealthy level because of the fires. The Air Quality Index was at 161 at kickoff, which is in the unhealthy zone, and smoke could be smelled throughout the stadium. The NFL had monitored the situation but the AQI never got near 200, the level where the game would have needed to be moved

Clippers beat Warriors for first time in 4 years

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Lou Williams scored 10 of his 25 points in overtime after the Clippers blew a 14-point lead in the fourth quarter, and Los Angeles hung on Monday night to beat the Golden State Warriors at home for the first time in nearly four years, 121-116.

Williams rallied after missing shots in the closing minutes of regulation, when the Warriors ran off 11 straight points to force overtime tied at 106-all.

Montrezl Harrell added 23 points off the bench and rookie Shai Gilgeous-Alexander had 18.

The Clippers snapped a seven-game skid against the Warriors at Staples Center, where they last won on Dec. 25, 2014.

Kevin Durant had 33 points, 11 rebounds and 10 assists for the Warriors before fouling out with 3:46 left in the extra session. Klay Thompson added 31 points, but was just 5 of 16 on 3-pointers on a night without injured fellow Splash Brother Stephen Curry.

Golden State lost for just the third time in 14 games.

The starless Clippers improved to 6-1 at home.

Thompson's 3-pointer tied it 116-all in overtime, interrupting Williams' run of 10 straight points for the Clippers.

Down 106-95, the Warriors closed regulation on an 11-0 run, with Thompson scoring their last eight points. His second 3-pointer in the spurt tied it at 106.

The Clippers crashed the boards—every player grabbed at least one—and they dominated in the paint, 62-36.

Williams' 3-pointer gave Los Angeles its largest lead of 101-87. They didn't go up by double digits until Harrell's basket to open the fourth.

The Clippers shot 60 percent and led 64-61 at halftime. They controlled the boards, 23-13, and owned a 30-18 edge in the paint.

Durant scored 21 points and had three fouls in the half for the Warriors.

Timberwolves 120, Nets 113

In Minneapolis, Karl-Anthony Towns had 25 points and a season-high 21 rebounds, and the Minnesota Timberwolves beat the Brooklyn Nets 120-113 on Monday after finally trading Jimmy Butler.

The Nets lost leading scorer Caris LeVert to what appeared to be a severe right leg injury late in the first half.

Jeff Teague returned from a six-game absence to score 24 points for Minnesota, which snapped a five-game losing streak.

The Timberwolves officially dealt Butler to the Philadelphia 76ers on Monday, along with big man Justin Patton. The Wolves received Robert Covington, Dario Saric, Jerryd Bayless and a 2022 second-round pick in the trade.

LeVert's gruesome injury brought the entire crowd at Target Center to a silence. LeVert spent several minutes on the court being attended by medical personnel. Timberwolves players huddled in prayer while Nets players surrounded their injured teammate before he was wheeled off the court.

D'Angelo Russell made a career-high nine 3-pointers and scored 31 points for the Nets, who shot a season-worst 39.6 percent from the field.

Pelicans 126, Raptors 110

In Toronto, Anthony Davis had 25 points and a season-high 20 rebounds, E'Twaun Moore scored a season-high 30 points and New Orleans snapped Toronto's six-game winning streak.

Jrue Holiday had 29 points and matched a season high with 14 assists, and Julius Randle added 17 points and 12 rebounds as New Orleans won its third straight following a six-game losing streak.

AP

Los Angeles Clippers forward Danilo Gallinari, left, shoots as Golden State Warriors forward Kevon Looney defends during the first half of an NBA basketball game Monday, Nov. 12, 2018, in Los Angeles.

The Pelicans outscored the Raptors 72-42 in the paint and snapped a six-game losing streak against Toronto.

76ers 124, Heat 114

In Miami, Joel Embiid scored 35 points and grabbed 18 rebounds, and Philadelphia added to Miami's early-season struggles.

The win came hours after the 76ers finalized a trade with Minnesota to land four-time All-Star Jimmy Butler, who was in Philadelphia and not with the club in Miami. Butler will be introduced at the 76ers' facility in Camden, New Jersey, on Tuesday, before he flies to Orlando and makes his debut with Philly on Wednesday night against the Magic.

JJ Redick scored 25 points, Furkan Korkmaz scored 16 and Ben Simmons and Mike Muscala each had 13 for Philadelphia.

Goran Dragic scored 22 points for Miami, which got 17 from Josh Richardson and 14 from Wayne Ellington. The Heat have dropped three straight, all of them at home.

Jazz 96, Grizzlies 88

In Memphis, Joe Ingles scored 19 points, Rudy Gobert added 15 points and 16 rebounds and Utah won its third straight.

The Jazz broke open a close game in the final six minutes with a 14-5 run. Gobert had eight points in the stretch as Utah built its lead to 11 points in the late stages.

Derrick Favors and Donovan Mitchell finished with 12 points apiece for Utah.

Mike Conley led Memphis with 24 points, while Marc Gasol added 16. Jaren Jackson Jr. and MarShon Brooks finished with 10 points each, and Jackson had 11 rebounds.

The loss was the first at home for Memphis this season.

Thunder 118, Suns 101

In Oklahoma City, Paul George matched his season high with 32 points and went 6 of 10 from 3-point range, Dennis Schroder added 20 points and nine assists, and Oklahoma City beat Phoenix.

The Thunder have won eight of their last nine games after a 0-4 start while the Suns have lost four straight and 11 of their last 12. Two of those losses have come in Oklahoma City.

Oklahoma City scored 22 straight points in the first quarter, holding the Suns scoreless for nearly seven minutes, to take a 24-5 lead. The Thunder never trailed again and led by as many as 28 points in the second quarter before settling for a 64-40 halftime lead.

Kings 104, Spurs 99

In Sacramento, Iman Shumpert made a tiebreaking jumper with 4:05 remaining, De'Aaron Fox and Nemanja Bjelica followed with 3-pointers and Sacramento pulled away to end a 14-game losing streak to San Antonio.

Fox finished with 19 points and seven assists. Willie Cauley-Stein had 13 points and 13 rebounds, and Bogdan Bogdanovic scored 22 points for the Kings.

Sacramento led the entire third quarter but didn't shake San Antonio until late in the fourth.

LaMarcus Aldridge had 14 points and 18 rebounds. DeMar DeRozan scored 23 points with eight assists, and Rudy Gay added 14 points and nine rebounds in his return to the Spurs lineup.

Wizards 117, Magic 109

In Washington, John Wall had 25 points and 10 assists, Bradley Beal added 21 points and Washington won consecutive games for the first time this season, beating Orlando.

Jeff Green added 18 points off the bench on 6-of-7 shooting for Washington, which lost at Orlando on Friday night to fall to 2-9 before winning at Miami.

The Wizards made 24 free throws on 33 attempts, 22 more than the Magic earned, and out-rebounded the visitors 41-34.

Terrence Ross scored 21 points off the bench to lead Orlando, which saw a two-game winning streak snapped.

WOO

From Page 24

damage among the tennis facilities on island, allowing Woo and company to resume their training sessions.

"Fortunately, I was able to return to training after the typhoon," the Grace Christian Academy student said.

"I hope to get through the first round in Australia and win a few matches," he added.

This will be Woo's second appearance in the December Showdown. Last year, Woo dropped his opening singles match in the main draw, as he was outclassed by Queensland's Massimo O'Hanlon, 6-0, 4-6, 6-1. Woo and his doubles partner Erid Padgham also lost to No. 8 seed Kousuke Morita and Edward Winter in the opener, 6-3, 6-1.

In the team event, Woo played with Tahiti's Eli Manovai and Tonga's Christopher Maaasi and they fell to South Australia, New South Wales, and the All-Stars in pool play. No. 3 seed Victoria won the team event, pulling off an upset over No. 1 Queensland in the finals, 2-1.

RANGAMAR

From Page 24

the speakers in the leadership seminar and shared her experience on how a mother could still get involved in sports, compete, and excel.

For the throwing course, participants got helpful knowledge, both theoretical and practical, from renowned coaches Debbie Strange and Emily Nolan of New Zealand. The two resource speakers discussed the dynamics of shot put and javelin throws, the science behind them, and effective and efficient warm-up techniques.

Rangamar said the two events in New Zealand have significant important not only to her, but to the entire CNMI athletics program once the things she learned are passed on to coaches/teachers and applied to athletes.

"This is extremely useful for myself and more so for our athletes, young and old. The more coaches we have, the more opportunities we can create for CNMI athletes," she said.

Meanwhile, OAA is calling all its member-federations to submit names of technical officials who would want to officiate three regional competitions next year.

The umbrella organization is looking for technical officials for the Oceania Area Championships that will run from June 25 to 28 in Townsville, Australia; the 2019 Pacific Games in Apia, Samoa from July 15 to 20; and the Oceania Masters Championships in Mackay Australia from Aug. 31 to Sept. 7. OAA is now accepting letters of expression of interest and officials selected will be notified by Feb. 1, 2019.

ANSWERING

From Page 24

Nutrition Center said.

"My first sergeant called me up and told me they were planning on sending over 300 Army soldiers from our 9th MSC Battalion and needed me to design the medical plan of action as well as organize a team of lower enlisted certified medics. So, here we are now two weeks into the operation and we've designed a joint operations team of Airforce, Navy, and Army ER doctors, paramedics, and combat medics," Cutting said.

The Army Reserve soldier added that when Yutu hit Saipan, his training regimen suffered.

"When the storm hit a few weeks ago it already had upset my intense daily training regimen. I missed four straight days of lifting and cardio, not to mention all my chicken, beef, and eggs got spoiled within two days. I could already see my conditioning slipping and knew my chances for placing in such a large competition were impossible at that time," said Cutting, who has been serving the country for 18 years with four combat tours in support of both Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

After passing up on the tournament in Honolulu, Cutting will shop for other competitions next year.

"After I end these orders, I will be looking for another NPC sanctioned show either in Asia or maybe in Hawaii again," Cutting said.

Meanwhile, Joint Region Marianas spokesman Brad Ruszala lauded Cutting and his fellow servicemen for stepping up to the plate.

"He trained about a year for this competition, but fate had other plans. Instead of representing the Marianas on stage, he's spent the past two and a half weeks representing our nation's military when we need him and his fellow service members the most. NPC Shawn Ray's Hawaiian Classic might not have been in the cards this year, but your community is grateful for your personal sacrifice. Thank you for putting the CNMI ahead of yourself," Ruszala said.

Cutting thanked Ruszala for the good words, but reiterated that credit should go to all those providing help to the community.

"Just because I wear this uniform I (we) are not the only ones rebuilding our island. I see amazing acts of kindness and unselfish actions every day from many civilians within our community. They are the heroes, they are the ones that do the right thing when no one is watching and know they will most likely not get recognized for their acts of valor," Cutting said.

Ohtani wins AL Rookie of the Year

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Saipan Tribune
Sports

KAN PACIFIC POOL CLOSED

Answering the call of duty

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

For bodybuilder Derek Cutting, competitions could wait, but not the CNMI people who are in dire need of help after Super Typhoon Yutu slammed Saipan and Tinian late last month.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
SSG Derek Cutting, right, poses with, from left, SPC Brandon Salas, SPC Antonio Borja, and SPC Christopher Paulino of Guam at the U.S. Army Reserve Center in Puerto Rico after completing their relief work on Saipan last Monday.

Cutting missed the prestigious Shawn Ray's Hawaiian Classic held in Honolulu last Nov. 10 as he stayed back on Saipan to help in the relief efforts here.

"My family and I were supposed to leave for Honolulu last Nov. 6 for my competition on Nov. 10. I am a bit disappointed that we had to cancel our family trip, but I am more than happy and honored to be side by side with my brothers and sisters in the armed forces, helping to rebuild and get Saipan and the CNMI back on track," the staff sergeant with the Army Reserve said.

Cutting received his call of duty a week before he completed his 46-week preparation for the event sanctioned by the National Physique Committee—the largest amateur bodybuilding organization in the United States.

"I planned a 46-week prep and started my intense training on Jan. 5 At 45 weeks, I received my orders to cover down and set up our medical aid station," the founder and owner of Latte Built 24-Hour Fitness and

See ANSWERING on Page 23

Woo to play in Australia

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Ji Min Woo prepares for a return from the baseline during a singles match in last year's TanHoldings Tennis Classic at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan tennis courts. Woo will leave Saipan for Australia to compete in two events.

CNMI junior player Ji Min Woo will leave Saipan later this month to compete in the 2018 14/U Australian Championships in Victoria.

Woo will play in both the singles and doubles event of the tournament dubbed as December Showdown and will also suit up for Pacific Oceania in the team contest. The singles and doubles events will be held at the Melbourne Park from Dec. 1 to 6, while the team competition will take place from Dec. 7 to 10.

"I will leave on Nov. 29 and I am now back to training at the American Memorial Park tennis courts to prepare for the tournament," said Woo, who was forced to suspend his preparation for the December Showdown for a week after Saipan was hit by Super Typhoon Yutu and left massive damage on island, including the various courts on Saipan.

The AMP court suffered the least

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Rangamar completes 2 events in NZ

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Multi-sport athlete Lia Rangamar is back on island after attending two Oceania Athletics Association-sponsored events in Auckland, New Zealand.

Rangamar participated first in the Women's Leadership Seminar held on Nov. 2 and 3 before taking the OAA IAAF Level II Throws Course that ran from Nov. 4 to Nov. 10. The CNMI athlete was among the more than 10 individuals that completed both events.

"There's so much knowledge that were passed around, both from the seminar and the coaches course. I came into these events with open ears and an open mind," Rangamar said.

Olympian and world champion Dame Valerie Adams was one of

See RANGAMAR on Page 23

OCEANIA ATHLETICS ASSOCIATION
The CNMI's Lia Rangamar, second right, and other participants in the Oceania Athletics Association IAAF Level II Throws Course listen to resource speaker Debbie Strange during one of their class sessions in New Zealand last week.